CHARLENE CARTER vs SOUTHWEST AIRLINES and 3:17-cv-02245-X June 16, 2022

1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
2	CASE NO. 3:17-cv-02245-X
3	CASE NO. 5:17-CV-U2245-A
4	
5	x
6	CHARLENE CARTER,
7	Plaintiff,
8	v.
9	SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO. and, TRANSPORT WORKERS OF AMERICA,
10	LOCAL 556,
11	Defendants.
12	
13	x
14	
15	
16	TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRETRIAL CONFERENCE
17	BEFORE THE HONORABLE BRANTLEY STARR
18	UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
19	
20	
21	Dallas, Texas
22	June 16, 2022
23	9:02 a.m.
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1	- PROCEEDINGS -
2	THE COURT SECURITY OFFICER: All rise.
3	THE COURT: Thank you. You can be seated.
4	Okay. The Court calls Civil Action
5	317-cv-2278-X. That is Carter versus Southwest
6	Airlines and Transport Workers of America, Local 556
7	for pretrial conference.
8	Let's do appearances for the record.
9	MR. GILLIAM: Matthew Gilliam for
10	Plaintiff, along with Matthew Hill and Bobby Pryor.
11	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
12	And then how about for Southwest, who do
13	we have here?
14	MR. McKEEBY: Paulo McKeeby along with
15	Brian Morris for the Defendant Southwest.
16	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
17	And then how about for Local 556?
18	MR. GREENFIELD: Adam Greenfield, along
19	with Edward Cloutman, III.
20	THE COURT: All right. Thank you.
21	Okay. So is everyone ready for pretrial
22	conference?
23	I know this monitor is always right in the
24	way. I wish I was as tall as Matumbo, because then
25	I could see you perfectly. But I'm short and I

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1
    apologize.
 2
              That -- that whole system is probably
 3
    going to be tilted a little bit when we have the
    jury trial, by the way, just because real action
 4
 5
    with the jury. And so we try to tilt it so if you
    are at the podium, you can face the jury.
 6
              The problem we see today with that and
 7
    y'all making eye contact with me is not going to be
 8
 9
    a problem during trial.
10
              Is everyone ready for pretrial conference?
              All right. So let me tell y'all what
11
12
    things I plan on us covering, and then you can tell
13
    me if I have left anything out.
14
              So I have got 10 things I think we need to
15
    talk about.
              One is scheduling. Just me confirming
16
17
    that y'all have a special setting.
18
              Two is pretrial order.
19
              Three is jury charge. I don't plan
20
    talking through the jury charge, but just telling
    you how I plan to do it. I will try to send y'all
21
22
    my draft, before trial starts, and then I will tell
23
    you how I handle informal charge conferences and
24
    formal charge conferences.
25
              Four is motions in limine.
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1	Five is voir dire.
2	Six is time limits. No one likes them but
3	I want to walk through it, so I make clear to y'all
4	what the shot clock is, how it works, and what
5	questions y'all have.
6	Seven is exhibit objections.
7	I won't handle all of those today. I will
8	just you know, you can calm your blood pressure,
9	you don't have to talk through one at a time. But I
10	will tell you my protocol on how I handle them.
11	I handle them pretrial, so it doesn't
12	waste y'all's time clock. But I handle them the
13	morning of trial before the jury gets here at 8:30.
14	And then I have got witness list
15	objections as the eighth topic to cover.
16	Depo designations and unavailable
17	witnesses is Topic 9.
18	And then any other questions on trial
19	protocol as Topic No. 10.
20	Any topics that we are missing out on,
21	that y'all want to make me aware of?
22	MR. GILLIAM: Not that I can think of,
23	your Honor.
24	There was one item that we discussed a
25	little bit amongst ourselves, and that's having some

1	conversations about
2	THE COURT: Can I ask and this is
3	everyone is used to standing up to address judges,
4	but our microphones get real quiet when you do that.
5	Do you mind can we all have an
6	agreement that y'all can sit down when addressing
7	me? I'm not offended in the least, and then I can
8	hear all of you, if that makes sense.
9	MR. GILLIAM: Okay.
10	THE COURT: Okay. So y'all can stay
11	seated, and I will slide over here, awkwardly, so I
12	can make eye contact.
13	MR. GILLIAM: Thank you, your Honor.
14	So yes. So we had discussed amongst
15	ourselves possibly cleaning up some of the
16	duplicative pages in the exhibits.
17	THE COURT: Okay.
18	MR. GILLIAM: So that might fit in well
19	with your Topic No. 7.
20	THE COURT: Yes.
21	MR. GILLIAM: The only other item I can
22	think of.
23	THE COURT: And I will say, just at the
24	outset, I think y'all have been working together
25	very well on exhibits and some of the other issues

1 where sometimes lawyers don't work well together. 2 If y'all have a situation where you want to streamline things and make late-breaking changes 3 to exhibits and the list, I'm fine with that because 4 5 of the professional courtesy you have shown to each 6 other. Does that make sense? 7 So I'm not going to be a jerk and say, 8 9 Hey, exhibit lists is closed and exhibits are closed 10 when y'all have such good coordination. 11 MR. GILLIAM: Thank you. 12 THE COURT: So thank you in advance for 13 your professionalism. It is refreshing. 14 A lot of lawyers get in here and try to 15 beat the other lawyers over the head, and the jury 16 doesn't appreciate it, honestly. 17 Like I talk to the juries after every Anytime we have had professional lawyers 18 19 working well together to present a case to the jury, 20 they love it, right? They want to see the case for what it is, not for what lawyers can be to each 21 22 other at their worst. 23 Thank you for that at the outset. 24 MR. McKEEBY: So as a practical matter, if 25 we do, as I suspect to be the case, i have an

amended exhibit list. 1 2 Should we just kind of file that based on 3 the previous protocol or --I will let you file it on the 4 THE COURT: 5 docket without a motion for leave. All right? Just file it. 6 7 What I will ask is if when you file one, can y'all send a Word version to us as well? 8 9 reason I'm asking for a Word version -- I will cover 10 this a little more when we get to exhibits -- I'm sort of the keeper of exhibits once trial starts, 11 12 and so I take your Word version, add a few columns, 13 and I say witness admitted with and dated admitted, 14 and then as we admit things one at a time, I put 15 those entries on the Word version of the exhibit 16 list. 17 At the end of trial, I strip off all of the exhibits that weren't admitted, and that is what 18 19 we send back with the jury. They will have a paper printout of that. And then they will have the 20 electronic version of each exhibit. 21 22 So as I admit it, I also grab your 23 electronic exhibit and throw it on the thumb 24 drive -- that thumb drive goes on the computer. 25 So if I don't have your Word copy, then it

1	kind of makes it more cumbersome on me.
2	So file it you don't need to file a
3	motion to leave, but if you could send a Word doc as
4	well, that would help.
5	I think y'all have Mr. Frye's email.
6	Y'all have the Starr orders email.
7	I will give you Mr. Frye's email. That is
8	where you can send it as well.
9	So it is Kevin_Frye normal spelling of
10	Kevin; Frye is F-R-Y-E and then it is at
11	txnd.uscourts.gov.
12	He gets plenty of email. I sign him up
13	for spam all of the time, enlisted him for the
14	Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force. We need Space
15	Force. I need to enlist him in the Space Force.
16	Okay. So email it to Mr. Frye. And then
17	I will have that copy to use on the bench.
18	Okay. Well, let's start talking. At the
19	end, I will just ask you if there is anything we
20	didn't cover, and then we can make sure all of your
21	questions are answered.
22	On scheduling, I know 1 p.m. is a weird
23	start time for July 5th. So I will tell you why a 1
24	p.m. start.
25	I have got another pretrial conference

that morning for a trial that is going to be right 1 2 on your heels. And so I needed to knock that out in 3 the morning so we could pick the jury in the 4 afternoon. 5 The good news about that is, you have a There is no other criminal case or 6 special setting. 7 civil case I have that will knock you off the There is also no other case in the 8 July 5th. 9 courthouse that could knock you off of July 5th. 10 We do criminal cases first, oldest indictments first. And so right now there is 11 12 nothing that can knock you off of July 5th. So for 13 witness planning purposes, that is your date. We 14 are going to go then. 15 That is the one benefit to me that COVID 16 has shown us, is I like special settings. And that 17 gives everyone greater peace and comfort, and it let's me prep for the case better than just a cattle 18 19 call that we have got a three-week docket and who 20 knows who we will call. So July 5th is our special setting. 21 Pretrial order. 22 23 So I have been through your pretrial 24 order. There is only one question I have about it, 25 and it really gets to punitive damages for an RLA

1 claim. 2 The reason I'm asking that is because I 3 know from the live complaint, the Fourth Amended 4 Complaint, there was a demand for punitive damages 5 from Title VII. And I think we are all on the same page that punitive damages are recoverable if a 6 7 Title VII case meets the legal test. I know there is a disputed question as to 8 9 legally whether or not you can get punitive damages 10 on an RLA case, but I did not see a request in the Fourth Amended Complaint for punitive damages for an 11 12 RLA claim. 13 So my question is -- I know in the 14 pretrial order we've got a reference to that being a 15 contested issue of Law No. 8 from Carter. I know in Carter's submission of a 16 17 proposed jury questions, we've got that in there, punitive damages tying back to RLA. 18 19 So I quess my first question is, are you 20 trying to get it? And then I will ask, do y'all consent to it? Because you can try things by 21 22 consent. And if we don't do that, then I need to 23 figure out some other questions. So the first question for Team Carter is, 24

are you seeking punitives under the RLA claims?

25

1	MR. GILLIAM: Yes, your Honor, we are.
2	We are seeking punitive damages under the
3	precedent that was set in the Seventh Circuit case
4	of Lebeau.
5	There is another case that supports the
6	punitive damages theory out of the out of the one
7	of the New York districts. That is Riley. We cited
8	to both of those.
9	Lebeau also cites to many cases in other
10	circuits where punitive damages have been awarded
11	for an RLA claim.
12	And then, finally, I would say there is a
13	Fifth Circuit case that we cited to you in our
14	briefs that has awarded, they call it penalty A,
15	akin to punitive damages.
16	And, again, we have cited to that case in
17	our brief as well.
18	THE COURT: And so I will thank you for
19	your answer. Let me say one thing right quick.
20	Today, no matter how far get on my
21	questions on punitives and RLA, I will never get to
22	the merits of that.
23	I think that is something that we have to
24	talk about at the informal charge conference, and
25	then I will make the final decision at the formal

1	charge conference.
2	The reason I'm asking it today is for the
3	limited purpose of the pretrial order. If I sign
4	it, it replaces the pleadings.
5	And my concern is, I'm replacing a Fourth
6	Amended Complaint that does not seek punitives for
7	RLA with a pretrial order that arguably does, based
8	on contested issue of Law No. 8 from Carter.
9	So before I do that, I'm trying to figure
10	out just the procedural question, not the merits
11	question of are they recoverable.
12	Okay. So they want them. So now my
13	question for Southwest and 556 is, do you agree to
14	try them by consent?
15	If not, I have other procedural questions
16	I need to ask.
17	MR. McKEEBY: No.
18	THE COURT: Okay. I figured that was your
19	answer. So now, let me come back.
20	So basically my view is that, the pretrial
21	order replaces pleadings. So you are trying to
22	amend your pleadings on the eve of trial.
23	So now we have to figure out good cause,
24	is there good cause. If there is, is there
25	prejudice to the other side.

1	And so my question is, what is the good
2	cause for not including this in the Fourth Amended
3	Complaint but now including it in the pretrial
4	order?
5	MR. GILLIAM: Your Honor, I know that
6	we the punitive damages provision in the Fourth
7	Amended Complaint did specifically mention Title
8	VII.
9	There was also another provision that said
10	we seek other relief that is warranted under the
11	case.
12	And again, we think that this is a case
13	where protected activity under the Railway Labor Act
14	should be in fact protected.
15	And when you have an employer and a union
16	that turn on an employee, then there needs to be
17	punitive damages awarded in order to deter future
18	conduct of that nature.
19	THE COURT: Understood.
20	Is the Seventh Circuit case you cited, did
21	that come up before or after the Fourth Amended
22	Complaint?
23	MR. GILLIAM: That came out before.
24	THE COURT: Do you recall?
25	Okay. So let me hear argument on good

cause from Southwest or 556. I don't care who goes 1 2 first. 3 I will go first. MR. McKEEBY: 4 I don't have too much interest in it today 5 rather than it wasn't in the complaint. Frankly, I don't think it is something 6 7 that, punitive damages, they are entitled to. The Lebeau case and the other cases that 8 9 do recognize a claim for punitive damages are in the 10 context where there is no Collective Bargaining Agreement or union in place. 11 And there is another line of cases, when 12 13 those things do exist, there is a union in place, 14 where the Courts have fairly unanimously said the punitive damages and compensatory damages, by the 15 16 way, are not available. 17 So I actually thought that is maybe something that warrants a pretrial -- a pretrial 18 19 brief. 20 I know we said we didn't need one in our pretrial order. But thinking through that issue, I 21 22 might suggest that we revisit that. 23 But to the extent that the Court finds 24 good cause with respect to punitives, but I think it is also applicable to compensatory under the RLA, at 25

1 least we are in agreement, as the Court observed 2 with respect to Title VII, but not so with respect 3 to the RLA. 4 And, again, I construed that the omission 5 as acknowledgement that they weren't legally entitled to it and so we would oppose their request 6 7 to effectively amend the pleading. 8 Understood. THE COURT: 9 So here is what I will do. I'm not going 10 to reach the merits yet. I haven't delved into the 11 merits. 12 But what I will say is, I get that you are 13 not trying it by consent. 14 When it comes to the two elements what I 15 would look at for procedurally, can they add that 16 request at this point in time. 17 I'm going to say, I don't think there would be prejudice to the defendants but I don't 18 19 think there is good cause. I'm just saying this to be fully 20 transparent with y'all. I don't try to rig outcomes 21 22 and steer outcomes. So I'm just trying to put all 23 my cards on the table. 24 I don't think there is prejudice because 25 you are already seeking punitives in Title VII,

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right? And so all of that evidence is coming in
 1
 2
    Title VII.
              They have been on notice of punitives for
 3
 4
    a long time.
 5
              Is it Title VII and RLA? I don't know
    that it matters that much from a prejudice stand
 6
 7
    point.
              Where I do think it matters is good cause.
 8
    I think if the Seventh Circuit case had come out as
 9
    a case after the Fourth Amended Complaint, then we'd
10
    have a situation where it is changed circumstances.
11
12
              And I would absolutely say, well, you
13
    weren't really on notice at the time. The text of
14
    the RLA was not matching up to the Title VII text.
15
    So we weren't really on notice from the text. Now
16
    the court says -- has implied it in.
17
              But I don't think we are there in that
                So I will just say, I think there is no
18
    situation.
    good cause to amend the pleadings at this stage.
19
20
              What I plan on doing then is, I'm just
    going to hand mark through No. 8, before I sign the
21
22
    order.
23
              If I sign the order without hand marking
24
    through No. 8, then I have broaden the scope of the
25
    pretrial order beyond the scope of the Fourth
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1	Amended Complaint in a way where you aren't
2	consenting to it and there is no good cause for it.
3	But I will understand y'all disagree with
4	me on that, and I get that. I'm just telling you, I
5	think there is no prejudice, but there is also no
6	good cause.
7	MR. GREENFIELD: Your Honor, if I may.
8	Just on food for thought.
9	THE COURT: Yes. Sorry. I couldn't see
10	you.
11	MR. GREENFIELD: That is all right. I
12	have been pretty quiet as to this point.
13	As food for thought on the prejudice
14	matter, Title VII does have damage caps. So I think
15	that could potentially factor into that.
16	THE COURT: Okay. All right. Well, thank
17	you for clarifying that.
18	What I will say is, I don't think there is
19	procedural prejudice
20	MR. GREENFIELD: Sure.
21	THE COURT: from a discovery
22	standpoint. But I will save back because you
23	brought up the damage cap in Title VII punitives,
24	but there maybe substantive prejudice by a higher
25	punitive damage award under RLA than under Title

1 VII. 2 So with that on the pretrial order, Okav. 3 later on today, I will cross through Carter 4 contested issue No. 8 and then I will sign it. That 5 will effectively merge the pleadings into your pretrial order. 6 7 Okay. So I will say on stipulated facts, thank y'all for putting in the stipulated facts that 8 9 That helps tell the story of the case. you did. 10 What I do on stipulated facts is, when we start off, after we have selected the jury, sworn 11 12 them in and after y'all have done your opening 13 arguments, I then read the stipulated facts and say 14 the lawyers have worked hard to get together and say 15 what they agree in this case. They hear that, and then we have Carter call the first witness. 16 17 Those stipulated facts also show back up in the jury charge, because y'all have agreed to 18 19 I just put them in the jury charge as a list 20 So that's the two places they will see there. stipulated facts. They will hear it from me after 21 22 opening and they will see it in the jury charge. 23 Any questions on pretrial order? 24 So jury charge is the next thing we should talk about. 25

And I told y'all, I'm not going to give 1 2 y'all rulings today on a charge. But I want to show y'all a roadmap of how we handle them. 3 4 I have got your proposed versions, and 5 thank you for flagging the points of disagreement that y'all have. 6 I'm going to work on coming up between now 7 and the first day of trial, my first draft of the 8 9 jury charge. And then we will email that out to y'all, so you have the benefit of it before we start 10 11 picking our jury. 12 You can look through it, see what topics 13 you want to argue me off of. And then we will have 14 an informal charge conference at some point during 15 trial. That is off the record. Right? The jury 16 will obviously be out of the room. 17 But then we will have it off the record, then -- that is your chance to lobby me, is the 18 19 informal charge conference. We may get here early 20 one day or stay late one day. Or maybe we had a witness issue where the 21 jury is out at 4:30 and it is a great time to talk 22 23 about the charge. 24 So I try to give my draft early, so y'all 25 can think about it and talk to me at any point

during trial, when we would have an informal charge 1 2 conference. 3 A formal charge conference, obviously, it will be on the record, still outside the presence of 4 5 the jury but after all of the evidence is closed. And so we can handle any motions for directed 6 7 verdict at that point because the jury is out of the room, and also have our last chance to talk about 8 9 the jury charge. 10 What I will say is, like we usually don't -- because the timing is more fixed for the 11 12 formal charge conference. Right? We've got to wait 13 until all of the evidence is in. 14 We usually don't luck out and it is just 15 at a break where the jury is gone for the night or they are out at lunch. So the jury is usually back 16 17 in their tiny, cramped deliberation room, unhappy with us for staying out here. 18 19 And so that is why I try to have an 20 informal charge conference where you can persuade 21 me. 22 The formal charge conference is more about 23 preserving than persuading, if that makes sense. 24 The jury is sitting back there. They are 25 cramped. I will tell my view of juries and why I

1	perhaps zealously guard their time.
2	This is true of sidebars. This is true of
3	anything we do that has the jury in the deliberation
4	room.
5	Back when it was early England, the king
6	or queen would decide the cases, right?
7	And eventually we replaced that and got
8	courts in England.
9	And here in America, we said in the first
10	three words of the Constitution, it is "We the
11	People."
12	And clarified in the Fifth Amendment for
13	criminal trial, the jury is the People.
14	And the Seventh Amendment, civil trials,
15	like we are having here, the jury is "We the
16	People."
17	So when we lock up the sovereign in that
18	dingy little room, we do it for three hours for a
19	formal change conference, I feel like I'm not doing
20	my job as a judge if I let that happen.
21	So I want you to have your full measure of
22	time to persuade me, but that should happen in an
23	informal charge conference where the jury is out,
24	right? Where they haven't come in to the courthouse
25	and they are just waiting on us.

1	So I try to protect their time.
2	But you will see that when we talk about
3	exhibits and my protocol for trying to minimize the
4	amount of time that we are huddled at a sidebar and
5	they are wondering what on earth we are doing and
6	why we are wasting their time.
7	Okay. So that is the jury charge and
8	informal charge conference.
9	I'm not sure when it will happen but that
10	is the time to persuade.
11	Formal charge conference, we do know when
12	it will happen, and that is the time to preserve.
13	Any questions on jury charge and that
14	protocol?
15	MR. GILLIAM: No. I will save this for a
16	later item.
17	THE COURT: Okay. That is fine.
18	We have plenty of time to address any
19	items of whatever order y'all prefer.
20	If y'all have questions that pop up, feel
21	free to ask them whenever.
22	Okay. Motion in limines.
23	I sent out a ruling on most of them
24	yesterday, but there are a number that I saved back
25	because I wanted to hear what y'all's thoughts were

1	on them before I issue a ruling.
2	What I will try to do is, even if I give
3	you a ruling on some of those today, I will still
4	try to push out a document in writing.
5	And if I can do it, I will push out an
6	amended ruling on motions in limine.
7	Because during the thick of trial, none of
8	us remember exactly what every limine ruling was.
9	And if we have them all on one document at your
10	fingertips, you can control F, search for it and
11	remember what the ruling was.
12	So I will try to do that for y'all's
13	benefit and mine.
14	But on the ones I saved back for talking
15	about today, I think I have got Carter motion in
16	limine number 12, as the first one that I withheld a
17	ruling on.
18	And so I will just recap what that one was
19	and then hear from y'all.
20	So Carter 12 was Carter seeking to
21	prohibit evidence, statement, argument, or testimony
22	regarding Local 556's representation of Carter after
23	President Stone reported her to Southwest for
24	discipline.
25	So it looks like both the Union and

1	Southwest oppose it. But everyone, including Carter
2	agrees, "That Local 556 did not discriminate nor
3	improperly represent her in any way at either the
4	fact finding meeting or the step two grievance."
5	So this one I mean, I think there is
6	some room for agreement of the parties, but not
7	total agreement.
8	I'm trying to figure out where that line
9	is, and if we should have like an extra stipulation
10	that is at the end of our stipulations that we all
11	agree that this conduct was not a Union violation or
12	not.
13	I'm just trying to figure out where we are
14	in terms of our agreement or disagreement.
15	Should I hear from Carter first and then
16	hear what hear what Local 556 and Southwest say?
17	MR. GILLIAM: Sure, your Honor.
18	I think that, as the Court recognized in
19	its ruling yesterday, that really everybody agrees
20	that representation after President Stone reported
21	is not something that is contested by our duty of
22	fair representation or RLA or Title VII claims
23	against the Union.
24	We our claim is that it is President
25	Stone, as the representative official of Local 556

turning in Ms. Carter, that is the crux of the 1 2 violation, and nothing that the Union did after the 3 fact can really change that. 4 THE COURT: That makes sense. 5 So are Southwest and the Union arguing there are things after the fact that might have been 6 Union violations of fair representations? Or it 7 seemed like people were in backwards positions a 8 9 little bit. 10 But is there any part of what he just said 11 that is a point of disagreement from Southwest or 12 the Union? 13 I will speak briefly, MR. McKEEBY: 14 because I think this is more of a Union issue. 15 But no, with respect to Southwest, other than I think from Southwest's perspective, the 16 17 fairness of the overall process, the grievance process, the hearings that -- and the fact finding 18 19 that occurred during that process at which the Union was in attendance with Ms. Carter show the fairness 20 of the process, and that is something I would like 21 22 to be able to explain to the jury. I think that is 23 relevant. 24 And so my questions would simply be 25 limited to the fact of Union representation at those

proceedings to show the fairness of those 1 2 proceedings as opposed to getting into any other 3 detail, quite frankly. 4 THE COURT: Okay. I think I understand 5 the position. 6 Can I hear from the Union, Mr. Greenfield? 7 MR. GREENFIELD: Yes, your Honor. The evidence of the Union's efforts to 8 9 help Ms. Carter get her job back is directly related 10 to evidence that we fairly represented Ms. Carter 11 throughout that process and the lengths to which we 12 did. 13 From an initial standpoint, we would 14 contend that President Stone, as an employee of 15 Southwest, never relinquishes any of her rights to be free from harassment and discrimination in the 16 17 workplace. From that point, what the Union did is 18 almost -- there is internal and external checks and 19 20 balances. So even if a Union executive board member, or the president, in this example, were to 21 22 turn in Ms. Carter for her alleged harassing 23 behavior, the Union then comes on the back end to 24 represent Ms. Carter and ultimately got her job 25 offered back to her.

1	So we think the actions that happened
2	afterward will go directly to the duty of fair
3	representation claim.
4	THE COURT: Understood.
5	Well, so my plan on this is to, in
6	writing, say that I will deny this.
7	I get your point now, that it is telling
8	the rest of the story, right? And now it is it
9	is also a point that they will argue to the jury.
10	It doesn't matter what good you could have
11	done after the fact, if you did something bad, that
12	could have been a violation of fair representation.
13	But I don't think I will handcuff you from
14	telling that story that what you did was good after
15	Stone turned in Carter.
16	But, obviously, you can also say that no
17	amount of good after Stone turned in Carter could
18	undo the fact that Stone turned in Carter.
19	So I will deny that, but I think y'all
20	know that that is fair game for the jury to talk
21	about with regard to both of your sides of the
22	issue.
23	The next one I saved back was Carter
24	Limine 20.
25	So Carter seeks to prohibit any evidence,

1	statement, argument, or testimony regarding any
2	person's specific support for Hillary Clinton or
3	Donald Trump.
4	So the notes I have are, Carter saying it
5	is irrelevant and prejudicial; Southwest isn't
6	opposed, but Local 556 is partially opposed because
7	the objection might encompass information that there
8	was in plaintiff's communications to Audrey Stone.
9	So I guess my question would be, I get
10	that is sort of the area of dispute, right?
11	If it was in an exhibit, are we carving
12	that out in a motion in limine ruling?
13	I guess my first question is for the
14	Union. Mr. Greenfield, do we know are there
15	specific exhibits we are talking about? Because
16	this also goes to voir dire. I know there are some
17	proposed voir dire questions on Clinton/Trump.
18	So I'm trying to figure out what is the
19	universe. My general feeling is, like y'all's is,
20	to say that is a global matter, probably no. But if
21	it is in communications and those communications
22	were what led to the lawsuit here, then I'm not
23	inclined to go and redact those communications.
24	So can you tell me and maybe illuminate
25	more for me the communications issues?

1	MR. GREENFIELD: Yes, your Honor. There
2	were voluminous communications from Ms. Carter to
3	President Stone during a three-, four-, five-year
4	time period. That included communications regarding
5	President Trump, et cetera.
6	But yes, globally we would agree with the
7	Court and plaintiffs that those topics shouldn't be
8	discussed or shouldn't be addressed.
9	But because they are in the communications
10	themselves, we shouldn't be parsing those out from
11	the jury.
12	THE COURT: Do you know if any of those
13	communications are in trial exhibits, Mr.
14	Greenfield?
15	MR. GREENFIELD: Yes. Yes, they are.
16	THE COURT: Let me hear from well,
17	anything to add from Southwest?
18	MR. McKEEBY: No.
19	THE COURT: Okay. So Carter, what is the
20	response on that?
21	Trial exhibits is my key concern.
22	MR. GILLIAM: Yes. If we knew
23	specifically which trial exhibits they were
24	objecting to, maybe there is a way to redact the
25	references we all agree on, the Trump and Clinton

1	references.
2	But maybe there is other speech, Union
3	opposition speech that we would agree to leave
4	unredacted.
5	I don't know if that would resolve the
6	issue for
7	THE COURT: Here is my plan on this one,
8	and without I think what I can say is, I'm not
9	intending to redact communications that led up to
10	this lawsuit, if that makes sense.
11	So the test is always relevance and
12	prejudice, right? I hear there is some relevance,
13	right? Because obviously Southwest needed to know
14	what was in the communications to make a decision on
15	course of action with her employment.
16	Prejudicial, are they overly prejudicial?
17	I don't know that they are overly prejudicial
18	because she was the speaker herself, right? There
19	are times, usually, when I find prejudice, it is
20	someone else that's injecting the prejudice.
21	But if it is the person bringing it
22	themselves, I would be hard pressed to pull out from
23	the jury's view what Southwest was viewing in making
24	a termination decision.
25	So I think, is there prejudice? Well,

maybe, but I don't think it is undue prejudice. 1 So 2 I'm not inclined to go that far. 3 What I will say is, I may grant this in 4 part and just say, if there are gratuitous questions 5 of witnesses, right? If we make this case more about politics than the underlying communications 6 7 did, that is where I do have a problem. Because then that would be you injecting prejudice into the 8 9 situation. Does that make sense? 10 So I think the jury can see what all Southwest saw from her. But if we are just asking 11 12 questions, you think that person loved Donald Trump 13 and it is not anchored to an exhibit or a specific 14 statement that Carter told that person, I think that 15 is where we are straying into territory that is 16 undue prejudice. 17 So I plan on granting this one in part and saying in exhibits or specific statements that 18 19 Carter had made verbally to somebody, that that area 20 is fine to talk about because it is words from Carter's mouth that Southwest Airlines had under 21 consideration when making employment decisions. 22 23 But if it is a gratuitous statement 24 otherwise, that is a bridge too far for me. That is 25 injecting things into the trial that are overly

1 prejudicial. 2 So that my ruling on 20. Okay. 3 Again, I will give that in the writing in 4 the next couple of days. I have Carter Limine 25 is next. 5 So Carter is seeking to prohibit any 6 7 attempt to request plaintiff's counsel to produce documents, stipulate to any fact or any make any 8 9 agreement in the presence of the jury. Southwest 10 was unopposed. 556 doesn't know exactly what this 11 means. 12 So I guess I will -- let me just say, I 13 have seen this play out in trial. Sometimes before, 14 can't we just agree. Let me say this: If you have any 15 situation like that, bring it to a sidebar. Your 16 17 Honor, sidebar. And if you want the other side to agree to anything, for streamlining trial, let's 18 19 talk about it at sidebar. 20 Later on, I will tell you losers of sidebar get the time tagged against them for the 21 22 sidebar. But there are situations where, because of 23 professionalism, you helped streamline something for 24 the jury at a sidebar, and I count that time as 25 against me, not against either of you. Does that

make sense?

So if you have a sidebar for a noble, like reaching an agreement to streamline an issue for the jury, don't worry about that time getting awarded against anybody. I'm a fair judge. I'm not trying to label someone a bad actor and always tag them with the time.

Is there any question with regard to my view of that? That I will grant the limine in part and just say, it is not that you can't talk about it, just talk about it in front of me instead of the jury. Because it is really not a jury issue at that point.

Okay. Limine No. 29 is the next one I held back from Carter.

So this is Carter seeking to prohibit evidence, statement or argument, for the plaintiff received contributions from family, friends, or her husband. Southwest is unopposed. 556 opposes on the basis of mitigation of damages.

so mitigation obviously applies to the next one, too, that I held back, Limine No. 30. So I'll just read it and then maybe we can talk about both at once.

Limine 30 is prohibiting references to

1	collateral sources of employee benefits that would
2	have been provided by Southwest but for Carter's
3	termination.
4	And so also same issue as before,
5	Southwest unopposed; 556 opposes on mitigation of
6	damages.
7	So can I hear argument from 556?
8	I understand the mitigation argument.
9	What I haven't seen is a case where mitigation has
10	gone down to friend and family contributions.
11	I have seen cases where mitigation
12	involved other employer benefits that could have
13	been attained.
14	So I guess my question is in line drawing,
15	can you help me I understand the conceptual
16	argument for mitigation. I haven't seen it play out
17	in a case where friends or family helping someone
18	get by in the meantime is a mitigation of damages
19	point.
20	Can you help eliminate that for me?
21	MR. GREENFIELD: Yes, your Honor.
22	I am not sure I have seen it play out
23	myself either.
24	But from a theoretical standpoint, if the
25	testimony was to come out or evidence was to come

1	out that Ms. Carter had received ample funds from a
2	family member or what have you, to which would
3	then allow her to not have to work or make efforts
4	to work, et cetera, to get back to work, then that
5	should be considered by the jury, as to potentially
6	why maybe her efforts to get back to work weren't as
7	robust as they should have been.
8	THE COURT: Understood.
9	Can I hear Carter's response to that and
10	also, obviously, at the same time, I'm trying to
11	consider the Southwest benefits piece.
12	Let me ask Southwest first, before we ask
13	Carter, can you illuminate for me what benefits we
14	are talking about that she could have obtained while
15	still being at Southwest?
16	I know it is a Union argument, but it is
17	peculiarly within Southwest's knowledge probably.
18	So I'm just trying to figure out what we are talking
19	about.
20	MR. McKEEBY: I suspect that it is
21	medical, dental, kind of your traditional panoply of
22	employee benefits. I'm not sure about retirement
23	and that type of thing. But I imagine it is medical
24	and
25	THE COURT: Incidentals.

```
1
                            -- incidentals, yes.
              MR. McKEEBY:
 2
              THE COURT: Got it.
 3
                     So Carter, I would like to hear a
              Okay.
 4
    response on other benefits from Southwest and family
 5
    and friends contributing.
              MR. GILLIAM: Okay.
 6
 7
              For the family and friends, that is not
    evidence that goes towards mitigation. If you are
 8
 9
    talking about evidence of other earnings from other
10
    work, sure, that goes to mitigation.
              But, you know, things she's received from
11
    her husband, from friends, that should be excluded
12
13
    just because it is not related to the issue of
14
   mitigation.
15
              As far as the collateral sources where we
    were really going with that is, for instance, if
16
17
   Ms. Carter's husband had put her on his health
    insurance plan, or she received unemployment or
18
19
    pension benefits, Southwest wouldn't get a windfall
20
    from that. That would not go towards mitigation.
21
              THE COURT: All right.
22
              MR. GILLIAM: For that, I think we rely on
23
    a case out of the Fifth Circuit called Phillips v.
24
    Westmoore.
25
              THE COURT: Phillips v. Westmoore?
```

1	MR. McKEEBY: Yeah, or Western Company.		
2	I can give you the cite, if you need it.		
3	THE COURT: That would be great, if you		
4	could.		
5	MR. GILLIAM: 953 F.2d 923, 1992 case out		
6	of the Fifth Circuit.		
7	MR. GREENFIELD: Could you repeat that for		
8	me?		
9	MR. GILLIAM: Sure. It's 953 F.2d 923.		
10	MR. GREENFIELD: Thank you.		
11	THE COURT: Thank you.		
12	So I keep taking Limine 30 under		
13	advisement.		
14	On Limine 29, what I'm going to say is,		
15	I'm going to deny that one.		
16	My thought is that I do think friends and		
17	family are in a quintessentially unique category,		
18	unlike an employer. But that is also why I'm not		
19	out of hand, you know, shutting down the notion of		
20	Southwest.		
21	I do need to figure out how incidental		
22	benefits are treated. But if it is Southwest I,		
23	mean, I've had a case when I was a lawyer where we		
24	brought up a retirement account. And so I thought		
25	that was mitigation of damages.		

1 And so I think employer benefits might or 2 might not be, depending on how they are structured. 3 So I will take a look at the windfall issue and take a look at your case. But I do think when it is 4 5 friends and family --And I will just say, I think this is an 6 7 issue that is going to become more and more prevalent with GoFundMe accounts. Because GoFundMe 8 9 is not your employer, but getting money, it is a 10 windfall. In my view, how I discreetly view this is 11 12 perhaps different than a GoFundMe even. 13 Although with friends and family, you 14 know, if Carter were to obtain a jury verdict, 15 Carter should pay her friends and family back, That is sort of the normal expectation with 16 right? 17 friends and family. And with a GoFundMe account, I don't even 18 19 know if there is a mechanism, if it is a crowd funding, if a person gets a verdict, to get that 20 money back to them. 21 22 And so if it is money that in good 23 conscious should be returned and is returnable under 24 friends and family, then in my mind it almost seems 25 more like a loan than a windfall.

And if it is a crowd funding situation,
with no recoupment, then it seems like a windfall.
So the courts haven't spoken to GoFundMes
yet, but I'm not sure how that is good to play out.
But that is how I view it in my mind as different.
So I will research more on Limine No. 30
and get y'all a ruling back in writing.
Southwest, we had Limine 1 on Southwest,
where Southwest was asking to limit testimony and
evidence related to treatment of other employees.
I think the Southwest argument was, we
should do so because evidence regarding an
employer's treatment of a non-party employee is only
relevant if they are a comparator.
And there are no comparators in this case.
Carter was saying this was not about pretext and
comparators, it is about Union knowledge of
employees and disciplining employees and their
overall effort to discipline recall supporters.
So I guess this, what started off as a
fight between you two, is not really a fight between
you two. So I would like to hear arguments on this.
I will just say from reading it I will
put this in my ruling, but in reading it, my
question is, should it come in but for the limited

purpose of evidence with regard to the Union and not 1 2 Because I can admit evidence Southwest? Right? 3 with a limiting instruction. 4 And so that is my initial read, but let me 5 get y'all's thoughts on the situation where it stands now, that it is really almost more of a Union 6 7 issue than a Southwest issue. That is correct, your Honor. 8 MR. GILLIAM: 9 We are seeking that evidence, to include 10 that evidence because we want to be able to demonstrate that the Union and its representatives 11 12 were trying to target other recall supporters that 13 they were putting constant pressure on Southwest, 14 not that Southwest -- not how it specifically 15 reacted to it, but that the Union was trying to make a concerted effort right around the same time that 16 17 Ms. Carter was fired to -- to cause other recall 18 supporters harm. 19 We think that this employee discipline 20 evidence is also very important to showing that Ms. Stone was acting within her official capacity, 21 22 the grievances she handled in the past, for 23 employers like Brian Talbert, who called for the 24 public execution of the Union opponents, that 25 Ms. Stone was willing to assist Mr. Talbert in his

1	grievance, but then said she felt threatened by
2	Ms. Carter's statements. So I think it is relevant
3	to that as well.
4	And again, going back a little bit more on
5	the official capacity issue, there is a lot of
6	history of Ms. Stone taking employee grievances to
7	Southwest managers. That was something she did.
8	She took disciplinary issues directly to many of
9	Southwest's upper level managers, vice presidents,
LO	directors of labor relations.
L1	And so employee discipline is critical to
L2	defining the scope of Ms. Stone's scope of capacity.
L3	And I would also say that, you know, if
L 4	the Union wants to put on evidence of its
L5	representation after Stone fired Carter, what is
L6	good for the goose is good for the gander.
L7	Basically, how the Union was also treating
L8	all of these other recall supporters is relevant to
L9	her RLA and DFR claims.
20	Each time a Union official turns in a
21	represented employee, it is presumed under Caravan
22	Knight and a long line of cases that that violates
23	the duty of fair representation.
24	So it is very important evidence to
25	showing whether the Union violated its duty of fair

representation when it reported Ms. Carter. 1 2 THE COURT: Thank you. 3 Can I hear from the Union first and then 4 Southwest? 5 MR. GREENFIELD: Yes, your Honor. First and foremost, I would like to 6 7 disagree with Mr. Gilliam's characterization of the case law he just cited. I believe that is 8 9 incorrect. 10 I think potentially further briefing on this might be appropriate just because now it has 11 12 turned from an argument between Southwest and the 13 plaintiffs to an argument on whether certain 14 information should come on between these two 15 parties. I think in regard to similarly-situated 16 17 employees, et cetera, I think that the argument still similarly tracks. What is the nature of these 18 19 other individuals that they are seeking to bring 20 forward? Are they similarly -- are the situations similar between who turned in these employees? Were 21 22 they board members? Were they Union objectors? 23 Were they Union members? Where these people fall in 24 these different buckets and categories, I think, 25 affects whether the information is relevant for the

1 jury to hear. 2 THE COURT: Understood. 3 So what I will ask on this one is, I am 4 going to ask for more briefing because of the 5 original two-sided nature of the fight has now turned into a little bit different two-sided fight. 6 7 So I will say that I agree with Southwest's initial position that because we don't 8 9 have a designated comparator. I don't think this 10 information should come in as to Southwest. But now the question is, should it be kept 11 out as to the Union as well because of the 12 13 situations being sufficiently different that it is 14 marginal relevance and undue prejudice. 15 So what I'm going to do is say that you, Mr. Greenfield, can file a belated motion in limine 16 17 addressing the topics you would like to exclude, right? So I think it is now your limine. You are 18 19 taking the baton from Southwest because I'm going to rule only as it pertains to Southwest and say this 20 information does need to stay out as to Southwest 21 22 because of the lack of a co-comparator -- lack of a 23 comparator. 24 But the separate question is, Union, can 25 it come in with a limiting instruction? Are there

1	some examples that are so far afield that they just			
2	can't come in?			
3	What I would like is, if you could turn in			
4	a written document maybe let's keep it to six			
5	pages or less, and by Monday at 5:00.			
6	And then I would like to hear any response			
7	from Carter Wednesday at 5:00. And the same page			
8	limits, six pages or less.			
9	And then I will go ahead, when I push out			
10	my updated ruling, I will say I'm granting this			
11	limine as to Southwest, not citing any issues for			
12	the Union until I see further briefing.			
13	Okay. So I think that is all that I had			
14	covered on limine points.			
15	Is there any other limine point that we			
16	need to talk through, that anyone knows about?			
17	MR. McKEEBY: Your Honor, on that last			
18	point, I mean, I guess it depends on your ultimate			
19	ruling, but Southwest's concern is goes to the			
20	what if the evidence comes in and you tell me			
21	if we should just table this. But if the evidence			
22	comes in, it should be limited to the report by the			
23	Union of the conduct.			
24	What I want to avoid is evidence of, you			
25	know, here is a Southwest flight attendant in			

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California who posted a video threatening a
 1
 2
    politician. And then Southwest having to explain
 3
    how it handled that situation, if we can.
 4
              That was the purpose of our motion in
 5
    limine.
             I guess once we get to the point of a
    ruling, then I want to make sure that that issue is
 6
 7
    preserved as to exactly what comes in.
 8
              THE COURT:
                          Sure.
              So you are hoping to keep it to the report
 9
10
    so that it is not a free-for-all.
11
              MR. McKEEBY:
                            Correct, essentially.
12
              THE COURT: Understood.
13
              So what I will say is, I think that baton
14
    is now passing to you. If anything comes in, I will
15
    still say you preserve your argument on that. And
    we will take it up.
16
17
              If you want to inform Mr. Greenfield,
    briefing on the nature of what comes in and not just
18
19
    who it pertains to, right? We have had a discussion
20
    on which witnesses had that evidence that might come
21
    in.
         Then let's tee it up more thoroughly.
22
              I -- I'll let you -- let's call it seven
23
    pages, because I know if you suggest to him, Hey,
24
    let's talk about what comes in, then he's going to
25
    be cramped for the six pages already.
```

1	I'm fine talking about that. And I will
2	just bear in mind for limiting instructions, if I do
3	let anything in, in this space, I will rely on y'all
4	to preview for me when it is about to come in.
5	Because when it comes in, I will say, jury just
6	heard X. I have admitted X only for purpose in the
7	use of the claims between Carter and the Union, not
8	between Carter and Southwest.
9	So whatever we let in, I need to give the
10	instruction as it comes in.
11	MR. GILLIAM: Your Honor, to clarify, will
12	our response now be seven or six?
13	THE COURT: Seven. I'm a proportionate
14	person. You have got seven.
15	And I'm not going to do a reply because we
16	are in pretrial mode. Let's just say everything you
17	need to in those first two documents. And then I
18	will try to get a written ruling, that will be the
19	last thing I think I save for y'all. So I will have
20	a second amended limine order coming out in the next
21	few days and then a third amended that comes that
22	addresses this last limine issue.
23	Okay. So I think that is all on limine.
24	Sorry to give y'all more work in the
25	pretrial posture. At least we have more than a week

between now and trial. 1 2 Voir dire is the next topic I have down. 3 And it is a lengthy one. 4 I will tell you everything I'm thinking on 5 voir dire. Because this is what most people are wondering, if it's their next course of action. 6 7 It says on the docket that we are going to look for a jury of eight. I try to find a jury as 8 9 close to our six at a civil trial as possible, but 10 with the constraints of a pandemic and sometimes we lose jurors, then we usually have been running with 11 juries of eight, unless it is like a one-day trial 12 13 and then we will run with seven. 14 So I think eight is the smallest number as 15 I can safely get. Each side has their three peremptory 16 17 strikes, but you have unlimited challenges for cause, obviously. 18 19 I do think with a case that touches on 20 abortion and politics, to an extent, that we might lose a good bit of people on challenges for cause. 21 22 Normally, we don't, right? I try to get people to 23 commit to me whether or not they could be fair, if I 24 told them they had to keep an open mind. But we 25 just might lose more than normal.

1 Normally, I would bring in 25 jurors for a 2 civil case, picking an eight-person jury. Here, I'm 3 going to change up that protocol on you and use my criminal protocol, where we are looking for a 4 5 14-person jury. I'm going to bring in 50 people, which we cannot fit in this courtroom. We can fit 6 7 25 in this courtroom. We are going to pick the jury downstairs 8 9 in the big jury assembly room. We used to pack in, 10 before COVID, 400 people in that room. We can space out 50 and do perfect social distancing. 11 12 So we can get 50 people in, even if we 13 lose a bunch on challenges for cause, on 14 abortion-related issues, then we should be fine 15 finding a group of eight impartial people out of 16 that group of 50. 17 That room, if you want to stick around for a few minutes after we finish up today, you can see 18 19 that room. Mr. Frye will show it to you. 20 It will not be set up today like we will have it set up for picking the jury on July 5th at 21 22 I can tell you a sketch about it now. Mr. one. 23 Frye can fill you in when you are in the room 24 scoping it out today. 25 At the back of the room is where there is

going to be a long series of tables. 1 I will be on 2 There is going to be a podium, just to my one end. 3 left, where you can get up and ask questions from 4 when it is your turn. 5 And then everyone sitting at counsel table, all the way down. And then the jury is going 6 7 to be spaced out in a bunch of rows; juror number one is up close and juror number 50 is way at the 8 9 back of the room. 10 We will have two microphones set up in there on a stand, one close up to the front, one a 11 12 little bit farther back, probably halfway back in 13 the room. So if it is the second half jurors 14 talking, they don't have to awkwardly walk all the 15 way up. That is how the room is set up. And so we 16 17 will bring in all 50 jurors at that point in time and question them all together as a panel. 18 How I handle voir dire is I ask the first 19 20 round of questions, but I had enough state court 21 time where I like y'all getting a touch on the 22 football, so y'all get to get a better feel for the 23 jurors than just seeing their reactions to the 24 questions I will ask. 25 I will go for probably about 30 minutes

1 with the Fifth Circuit standard instructions and 2 then some basic questions. 3 Some of the basic questions that I ask 4 are, who do you know questions. I like to get those 5 out of the way. But in my questioning time, I'm going to ask the lead lawyer for each group to 6 introduce everyone at their table, right? Including 7 their clients or corporate reps. See if anyone 8 9 knows them. 10 So be ready to introduce your table when I 11 ask my questions. 12 And then after I have asked you to 13 introduce, I also ask you to read your witness list. 14 So have your witness list handy when I start my voir 15 dire, and then I will have you stand up at the podium and then read off your witness list. I will 16 17 ask if anyone knows them. What I will try to do is get y'all my list of my questions before that 18 19 Monday -- before that Tuesday July 5th. That way, 20 if I'm asking the who-do-you-know questions or anything else that is on your list, you know you 21 don't have to ask it. 22 23 I have had that happen one time before, 24 where a lawyer keeps asking questions I already 25 asked. And it really loses your credibility with

1 the jury. So I'm going to try to give you my list 2 in advance so you can cut off the questions I'm 3 already going to cover. 4 When I give the baton to you to ask 5 questions, y'all have already filed your proposed voir dire questions, and I will go through those in 6 7 just a second. And they look pretty good. just have a few I want to talk about. 8 9 You can ask any questions that you ran by 10 me in writing, right? The questions you have already submitted to me. You can also ask any 11 12 reasonable follow-up question. 13 If you get the sense that someone is about 14 to just drop a bomb, let's approach at sidebar, 15 right? Sidebar is going to be harder in that room. Here we all know what sidebar is. But, like, if 16 17 someone is about to say that they had an abortion and they would do it again, or I have had an 18 19 abortion and I regret it every day since. Like if 20 someone is getting to that point, come over and huddle at sidebar. I have the ability to, after the 21 22 group questioning is over, kick everyone and say, 23 I'm going to call back in Juror No. 7. And we had a 24 sense that you were going to say something, but it 25 was a group setting, it was hard to say.

be with the abortion issue and politics running around in the background. Okay. Does anyone have questions on generally how I handle voir dire? I go first. 30 minutes per side. If anything is too sensitive,	1	So if you have a question where someone
And we will talk through it to make sure we don't bust a panel. If we bust a panel in this case, it will take days and days to circle back and get another group of jurors. So please work with me, the courtesy I'm extending to y'all on questioning witnesses, don't blow it. If we blow it, then the next time we question witnesses, it is just me who is going to question the witnesses. So get a sense for where that line is. Usually, it is not too dangerous, but here it might be with the abortion issue and politics running around in the background. Okay. Does anyone have questions on generally how I handle voir dire? I go first. 30 minutes per side. If anything is too sensitive, call for a sidebar and we will figure out if we need to ask a question in the follow-up. MR. GILLIAM: No, your Honor. MR. PRYOR: Your Honor, I'm sorry.	2	could be busting a panel, please just flag it,
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MR. PRYOR: Your Honor, I'm sorry.	22	to ask a question in the follow-up.
	23	MR. GILLIAM: No, your Honor.
25 THE COURT: Go for it.	24	MR. PRYOR: Your Honor, I'm sorry.
	25	THE COURT: Go for it.

The jury card, will we get 1 MR. PRYOR: 2 those? 3 THE COURT: Yes. So the clerk's office 4 call them juror information forms. And they will 5 have the standard information on it, you know, what is your occupation, where do you live, what is your 6 7 spouse's occupation, things of that nature. And so you can tease out some information there. 8 9 I will say -- and that is a good question 10 for me to say, when I tell you, you can ask two things, the preapproved questions or reasonable 11 12 follow-up, I will allow you to ask the third 13 question, which is, if it is a question based on the 14 juror information form, right? 15 If someone says that they are a lawyer, I 16 noticed you answered you are a lawyer, you are 17 lawyer, where do you work at. That is fair to talk about. 18 If it is overly sensitive, if you work at 19 an abortion clinic, maybe like flag for me and save 20 it for an individual question. 21 I think juror information forms are fair 22 23 game for you to ask for without preapproving a 24 question. 25 Your Honor, and I may have MR. PRYOR:

1 missed it, how many peremptory strikes? 2 Is it going to be equal to side as opposed 3 to party? 4 That is a good point. THE COURT: 5 We need to think through that because it is listed as three per side. And so the question 6 7 is, do you want more? If I give you more, then I have to think about, do I give them more? And we 8 9 get into a bit of a tailspin. 10 Do y'all have thoughts on peremptories and three per side, whether or not you can work well 11 12 together? Or if I need to make it four, with a two 13 and two split, where you don't have to work well 14 together. And I think about whether or not I give 15 them an additional peremptory. 16 MR. McKEEBY: Can you -- so the options 17 are we get a total of three from the Defendants or two each and then they get a total of four? 18 19 THE COURT: Those are the options I'm 20 thinking through. Either you have the pooled three 21 and they have three. Or you have, if you don't 22 think that it will be perfect cooperation, which is 23 hard to predict, if you would like to strike a 24 different person, for example, then I would be 25 amenable to giving y'all four with a split two and

1	two. And you don't have to pool.
2	If I give y'all four, then I think I have
3	to give them a fourth. I think I could do it based
4	on us bumping up to 50. If we were looking at 25 in
5	this case, I think I would get nervous about whether
6	I would run out of people.
7	MR. McKEEBY: I my preference is for
8	two and two with those options.
9	THE COURT: Okay. Any objection?
10	MR. PRYOR: Your Honor, are you asking how
11	many strikes per side?
12	THE COURT: You would want a million, but
13	I can't do that, right? So you can ask for whatever
14	you want but, again, I'm the one sitting here doing
15	the math and figuring out if we are going to run out
16	of people.
17	MR. PRYOR: Apparently, I would like six
18	per side, but four is four we will be there.
19	THE COURT: Four is better than three.
20	Mr. Greenfield, no one has asked your
21	thoughts. I haven't ruled yet.
22	MR. GREENFIELD: Yes, your Honor.
23	Southwest and the Union haven't discussed
24	if we have similar paths, as far as who the jurors
25	would be. So my thought would be three, three, and

three, just from the standpoint that I don't know 1 2 that our ideas align on who our jurors would be. And it is making an assumption that we 3 4 And maybe we do get along on who we want and would. 5 who we don't. I just don't know at this point. 6 THE COURT: Yeah. So I get that. But in my view, I have to keep it even per side. So what 7 I'll do is the two, two, and four. And that matches 8 up with the time clock that I put in, right? 9 totals across the V equate, and then there is a 10 split for if you don't cooperate. 11 12 And obviously, I will tell you this on the 13 protocol right now, I ask questions first. Then we 14 30 minutes per party, right, is go in order, right? 15 how I'm doing it; 30 minutes for everybody to get a touch on the football in voir dire. I let each side 16 17 have their own pool. So 30, 30, 30. After that, if we don't have any 18 19 individual people who had overly-sensitive potential 20 answers that we need to visit with, I kick all the jurors out to the hall. We talk about anyone who 21 22 had excuses, right? Scheduling, undue hardship, 23 anything like that first. 24 And I make a ruling on excuses, so if we 25 excuse people, I've got kids under 10 at home,

1	right, you never should have showed up to the			
2	courthouse. I excuse them. They are out of			
3	consideration.			
4	But then we talk about challenges for			
5	cause. Someone who said, Hey, my beliefs are so			
6	strong on abortion one way or another, I just can't			
7	be open-minded in this case.			
8	And then after I have struck all of those			
9	folks for cause, then I go off the bench and y'all			
10	use your peremptory strikes.			
11	Y'all might agree on which four you want			
12	to strike. It doesn't matter to me whether you pool			
13	or not. I just know I have given you two each,			
14	being fair in that regard.			
15	And then I come back on the bench when			
16	y'all have all agreed who you are going to strike.			
17	We figure out who our jury is and we call them back			
18	in.			
19	I will excuse everyone that is not on the			
20	jury from service. And then everyone who is on the			
21	jury, I will say, come back tomorrow at 8:45, we			
22	will start at 9:00 for opening arguments.			
23	So that is the run of show on voir dire.			
24	Any questions so far on that?			
25	MR. GILLIAM: Yes, your Honor.			

```
1
              You may have said, how much total time do
 2
    the parties have for voir dire?
 3
                          So y'all will get 30, 30, and
              THE COURT:
 4
    30.
 5
              I'm giving each lead lawyer a 30-minute
    touch on the football when it comes to voir dire.
 6
 7
    We should be able to pick our group in an afternoon.
    It will probably take all afternoon.
 8
 9
              I will say this, as just a procedural,
10
    mechanical thing, when we are in the room where
    there are 50 people and two microphones, you can't
11
12
    get a verbal answer from every person to a question.
13
              And so I frame mine, y'all frame most of
14
    yours as sort of yes/nos. You can ask people to
    explain their answer.
15
              I also de-identify the potential jurors.
16
17
    Because they might say something, like, I have had
                  I don't like there being a written
18
    an abortion.
19
    record of any of their answers tied to their name in
20
            If that makes sense.
                                  I know it is
    court.
    impersonal and I apologize to y'all for it being
21
22
    impersonal, but I have talked to jurors who have
23
    strong concerns, even in civil cases about that.
24
              So we give them all a placard, it has got
    a number on it. And when I go in my 30 minutes or
25
```

so, I will ask them, raise your placard, if you have served on a jury before. And then I tell them, hold your placards up, and I will call them off in order number lowest to highest, and put your placard down.

Jurors are pretty good at everything except that. The problem is they either won't hold their placard up. They will forget about it until the very end. Or they will hold it up on the first row, where I can't see anyone behind them long after I have called their number.

I will beat them into shape for y'all so that by the time, Mr. Gilliam, you start asking your questions, hopefully, they will know the placard routine, hopefully y'all will see, okay, I'm going to call them off. Because if you don't call them off, it is not in the record, the Court of Appeals can't see it.

If you want to ask them, Hey, can you come up to the microphone and tell me about what kind of jury you served on, that is totally fine.

Keep in mind the flow. You can get a lot of questions in your 30 minutes if you get your flow down and don't ask questions that burn all of the time on one question.

So you will see how I'm doing it. But

think through efficiency for your sake, because I 1 2 don't want you only getting in two or three questions in your 30 minutes because you asked them 3 4 the wrong way. 5 Okay. So substantively, we should talk 6 about a few of these questions to flag. Let me flip to Carter's proposed voir dire questions first. 7 8 I had --9 MR. PRYOR: Your Honor, and I'm sorry. 10 went swimming with my hearing aids, which was not a I apologize. I'm not quite catching 11 good thing. 12 it. I will fix that before trial. Thankfully, the 13 only thing I think I am involved in is the voir 14 dire. 15 That last question I had, of our 30 hours of trial time for plaintiff, does the 30-minutes 16 17 count against our time? THE COURT: Good question. 18 19 I think it is 12 hours. So nice try. 20 That was slick. Appreciate it. So your 30 minutes of voir dire does not 21 22 count. 23 All right. Thank you. MR. PRYOR: 24 THE COURT: I will get to this a little 25 bit more in time limits. None of that counts until

1	I bring the jury in and swear them in.
2	MR. PRYOR: And what about opening? And I
3	know I skipped beyond voir dire there.
4	Does that count towards the 12 hours?
5	THE COURT: Yes. So the 12 hours
6	anything that is counted is when the jury is in the
7	box and you are consuming the time, right?
8	MR. PRYOR: Got it.
9	THE COURT: That is the general rule,
10	right?
11	Opening, you are consuming the time. If
12	I'm reading the jury charge, you are not consuming
13	the time, that is on me, right?
14	If we are in here talking about the charge
15	conference, they are not in the box. If we are at a
16	sidebar, that you lost horribly, then, yeah, the
17	jury is in the box and they are sitting there
18	because of you and your horrible objection at
19	sidebar that I overruled.
20	Does that make sense?
21	So make good objections. But I will cover
22	my exhibit objection protocol here in a little bit
23	and you will see that I try to minimize those
24	sidebar times.
25	MR. PRYOR: Can I ask one more question

about	time	?
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I just finished a trial where at the end of the day we had to report to the panel how much time we thought we used. We kept track of our own time.

Do you keep track of our time? Is there a way we can check with someone? We may get a little close towards the end.

THE COURT: Yeah. So time clock I have a little bit later, but let me knock out the rest of the questions because that's basically the only other time clock question that we have.

At the end of every day, you will get an email from Mr. Frye that has two things in it. One is the updated exhibit list that we keep track of every day. Two is where you stand on your time clock usage.

And so you will be able to keep track based on that. After every sidebar, by the way, I email both Kevin and our law clerk, Ms. Silver, who is working on this case and say, here is who lost that sidebar, right? And they are keeping the stop watch to figure out who actually has that.

If you are wondering, our stop watch, when it begins and ends, when I say, okay, Mr.

Greenfield, you can question the witness, that is 1 2 their signal to start it. 3 So I have had lawyers who are not used to 4 shot clocks who would sit there and look at their 5 notepad for an awkwardly long two-minute period of time to figure out what all questions they would 6 think about asking. 7 The jury is in the box and I have just 8 9 announced it is your time. So you can't just sit 10 there at your seat awkwardly, and as if it is not your time and have it not count against you. 11 12 But I'm also not going to game the system. You won't see, you know, Southwest finish a question 13 14 like an auctioneer, right? And then say, Hey, 15 Greenfield. I try to actually make it slower because in my mind, we are a family presenting this 16 17 case to the jury. And if they see me trying to weird things like that, it's just not a good vibe to 18 19 So I'm going to pause for a little bit. I'm going to say, Okay, Mr. Greenfield, it is your 20 turn to question the witness. 21 22 So I don't try to force people into 23 un-winning situations on the time clock. I think I did say, if someone runs out of 24 25 time, they can ask for more, but they have to show

that they used their time efficiently and what they 1 2 need to use their extra time on. 3 On efficiency, I keep track of efficiency. I keep a running list with my staff on ways in which 4 5 you were inefficient. And so I will just tell you the one thing 6 7 I think people could have done to avoid every inefficiency I have seen is to just ask themselves 8 9 what do I want the jury -- if the jury goes on a 10 break right after this witness, and the jurors are back taking their 10-minute break, what do they want 11 12 to remember from this witness? 13 I had a criminal trial where the star 14 witness in a case was the lawyer that provided legal 15 advice to the defendants long ago, right? So that might be an affirmative defense, right? My lawyer 16 17 gave me this advice that I should do this and I 18 followed it. 19 So what the jury really wanted to hear 20 from that witness was, you have been a lawyer in the field for 30 years, the defendants hired you to give 21 22 them legal advice, you gave them legal advice and 23 you followed it. 24 That is it. It should take about five 25 minutes. The witness was up there three hours. And

```
then the jury did not remember anything the witness
 1
 2
    had said by the time that witness left the box, all
 3
    right?
 4
              So what does the jury need to remember
 5
    from this witness? Based on what you need to prove.
    If you start with that, then you can just throw a
 6
    brick and sit down. And I will have no complaints
 7
    about your efficiency.
 8
 9
              MR. PRYOR: And I think it goes by what
    you have said, so closing is also part of the 12
10
    hours?
11
12
              THE COURT:
                          That's correct. Closing is.
13
              But obviously, it does not include my
14
    time, which is jury charge or if y'all are talking
15
    about sidebars in a way to be efficient and reach an
16
    agreement, that is my time.
17
                          Okay.
                                 Thank you, Judge.
              MR. PRYOR:
                                 And then remember if
18
              THE COURT:
                          Okay.
    you are getting close to running out of time and are
19
    asking for more, what I really want to hear from
20
    you, I have thought of your efficiencies, lack
21
22
    thereof. What I really want to hear from you is
23
    what more time do you need? And what will you do
24
    with it?
              Be specific, right?
25
                                   If you are not
```

specific, I can't really judge your request on the 1 2 merits. 3 And don't ask too early. 4 In the last trial, I had the Government 5 ask for more time when they still had three hours I said, you are way too early. You have 6 three hours. You can do a lot in three hours. And 7 they did, they finished their case in three hours. 8 9 So don't ask too early because that tells 10 me that you plan on being inefficient. Ask when you are nearly out of time because that shows me you 11 12 were efficient and needed more despite your 13 efficiency. 14 Cross-examination of a witness, right? 15 That is you, taking time when the jury is in the 16 box. 17 I will say on time limits -- I don't think I will have this problem in this case. I have had a 18 19 handful of cases where lawyers have tried to game 20 the system, including through their witnesses. Gaming the system through your witnesses 21 22 amounts to telling them, Hey, everyone is on a time 23 clock, so slow the other side down during 24 cross-examination. 25 I don't see the lawyer telling their

witness that, but I see the fruits of it on the 1 2 When they were incredibly efficient on direct, and then when it comes to cross, I don't 3 4 recall that email. Can you show it to me? And then 5 you take three minutes to review a one-page email. Don't do that. I think y'all are 6 7 professional and won't. I will tell you how I handled that the 8 9 last time. The side I saw doing that, I denied 10 their request for more time. And I proactively gave more time the side they were doing it to. Does that 11 12 make sense? 13 I'm a judge. I can figure out remedies. 14 Remedies is all we do all day every day. So I want 15 y'all's commitment to not tell your witnesses about the time clock. Your party, your corporate reps 16 17 will obviously be in here and they will know about But tell them, be forthright. 18 19 Again, we are all a family presenting this 20 case to the jury. And they will be thankful, if we to do not and not thankful if we game the system. 21 22 Any questions on the time clock? 23 MR. PRYOR: When you are talking about 24 gaming the system, it made me think about objections 25 during trial. And some of your limine rulings

```
1
    you -- there may be heaping helpings of evidence
 2
    coming in that we will want to make sure we preserve
 3
    a record.
 4
              I know judges don't -- I'm not fond of
 5
    continuing objections either, on the other hand, I
    don't want you thinking that I'm gaming the system
 6
 7
   by objecting every time they ask a question relating
 8
    to X.
 9
              THE COURT:
                          So you are trying to object to
10
    preserve the limine ruling?
11
              MR. PRYOR:
                          I'm sorry?
12
              THE COURT:
                         Well, give me a more concrete
13
    context for your example.
14
              MR. PRYOR: Well, I mean, maybe an easy
15
    one, if you allow evidence of a collateral source,
16
    and they are asking questions about her husband or
17
    her mother.
              I don't know who all the collateral source
18
19
    issues are, and I know that I have objected once to
         And then I have got another question, and he's
20
    it.
21
    got five more questions on it and I'm objecting,
22
    objecting, objecting.
23
              Judges get pretty frustrated with that.
                                                        Ι
24
    only thought of it because I didn't want you to
25
    think I'm trying to waste their time.
```

```
1
                          What I will say on that, once
              THE COURT:
 2
    we see how -- how that is going, I will grant
 3
    someone a running objection rather freely when we
    have a time clock in place. Does that make sense?
 4
 5
    I think the frequent objections on different
 6
    topics --
 7
              MR. PRYOR:
                          Okay.
              THE COURT: -- so I have no problem
 8
 9
    saying, yeah, I will give you that running
10
                That way you are not breaking up their
    objection.
    flow, you are still preserving your error and then
11
12
    we are not wasting the jury's time.
13
                          That is helpful. Thank you,
              MR. PRYOR:
14
    your Honor.
15
              THE COURT:
                          I will say also, once I have
    set my limine rulings, there are lawyers that like
16
17
    to get up and object to relevance, scope,
    cumulative, all the time, like every question.
18
                                                     Ι
19
    have had that before, too.
20
              Please don't do that, right? I mean, if
    something is truly irrelevant, I will keep it out.
21
22
    A lot of times, the thing has marginal relevance.
23
    It is your opponent, so you think it has no
24
    relevance, but it has marginal relevance. I put
25
    y'all on a clock, right? That is how they want to
```

1	use their time. You should be sitting there
2	thinking, sweet, I am glad they are not getting to
3	the good stuff, right?
4	But a lot of times things have marginal
5	relevance, no prejudice. If that is how you want to
6	use your time, I will let you. If you are objecting
7	to every question on that basis for a several-minute
8	period, then I'm going to call a sidebar and I'm
9	going to remind you that I put in the time clock to
10	help you by having them use their time
11	inefficiently.
12	And because of all of your objections, now
13	I'm going to have to give the inefficient person
14	more time because your objections are taking time
15	for me to rule on.
16	That is another way to gain the system
17	that I compensate for. So I will award people more
18	time on the other side, if there are just frequent
19	objections on relevance, cumulative, that really are
20	getting overruled all of the time. And my time
21	clock is there to solve efficiency problem anyways.
22	Any other questions on the time clock?
23	MR. GREENFIELD: Yes, your Honor.
24	THE COURT: Yes. Go for it.
25	MR. GREENFIELD: I believe your order

1	discusses that defendants can pool their six hours
2	each. How would the Court like to handle that? For
3	example, if Southwest is presenting witnesses first,
4	I would be hesitant to give them time knowing that I
5	may not get it back.
6	THE COURT: Yes.
7	So what I would say is, I would encourage
8	you just from me putting myself in your shoes, I
9	would encourage you not to make a pooling decision
10	until late in the game. And I'm not even going to
11	ask you for one.
12	We are just going to keep three separate
13	time clocks, unless you affirmatively tell me, later
14	on in trial, Hey, we decided to pool.
15	That is what happened in my last trial. I
16	had three defendants, and two of them decided to
17	pool, but only as one was nearing the end and they
18	wanted to help each other out because that person
19	had the witnesses that were helpful to both of them.
20	Does that make sense?
21	I don't think it is a decision you can or
22	should make on the front end.
23	MR. McKEEBY: Pooling just means I give
24	the Union some of my time or vice versa?
25	THE COURT: I would say that now it is one

1	time clock for the defense, and y'all have 12 hours.
2	At that point, I'm going to stop keeping a separate
3	time clock for the defense. And if the defense
4	collectively runs out of time and needs more, then I
5	will look, have y'all been efficient and, yeah,
6	pooling in my view is a view of efficiency, you have
7	tried to be efficient in pooling.
8	How much more time do you need, what do
9	you need it on. Does that makes sense?
10	So I wouldn't make a decision on pooling
11	yet. One of you may be horribly inefficient. You
12	don't want to give your hours to the other side, if
13	you don't know that yet. You know about five
14	minutes into the first witness cross-examination,
15	how efficient your co-defendant's lawyer is.
16	Other questions on time clock?
17	All right. Let's jump back in to the
18	proposed voir dire questions, and then we will
19	probably take a quick break after this.
20	Okay. So proposed voir dire questions.
21	I have a question from Carter, No. 10.
22	The second sentence of this question is,
23	Is there anyone here that feels strongly about
24	abortion, such that you will not support a political
25	party or vote for a political candidate based on

1 your view about abortion. 2 Which number is that? MR. PRYOR: 3 THE COURT: This is Carter 10, second 4 sentence. Let me make sure that everyone is there. 5 So I think it is page 24 of the pretrial 6 order. 7 Okay. So there are three other sentences in here that I don't think have any issues. 8 The 9 reason I have an issue with the second sentence is it is asking, are you going to vote based on your 10 11 beliefs. 12 Anytime I ask someone how they are going 13 to vote, I just shut that question down. Right? 14 Because we've got ballot secrecy concerns. 15 there is discoverable information out there, and I think you have asked about it in your third and 16 17 fourth sentence, what discoverable information is 18 out there. 19 But there is some matters of life that are 20 so private, some religious areas that we will get to, some political areas like voting, that I don't 21 22 think we can get there and delve there. 23 And I will give you an example. Voting? 24 Showing up to a protest or rally? Yes. And so 25 there is Fifth Circuit case law, mostly in the

Your religious affiliation? 1 religion context. 2 Your very overt religious activities, like showing 3 up to a church rally for X, Y, or Z? Yes. 4 You are holding yourself out publically 5 and identifying in that way, whether it is religion 6 or politics. 7 So I think the second sentence I can't allow in question 10. But I can allow everything 8 9 else in the second sentence. 10 Any questions about that one? 11 MR. PRYOR: Your Honor, on that, the 12 political party question, what about a question of, 13 Is there anyone that feels so strongly about 14 abortion that it is -- it is the single issue for 15 you in making a decision to vote? THE COURT: I still can't get there. 16 17 Based on the --18 Same problem. MR. PRYOR: 19 Even though it is not asking THE COURT: 20 who would they vote for, I mean, ballot secrecy is 21 still like -- there are other ways you can find out. 22 I think you are asking them in sentence three and 23 four. 24 MR. PRYOR: All I'm really trying to find 25 out there, the ones that -- this is such an

emotional issue for them, we can evaluate whether or 1 2 not we think they would be appropriate for the jury. 3 And maybe these other questions get there 4 sufficiently. 5 So avoid the political party abortion 6 question or candidate question? 7 THE COURT: Right. 8 MR. PRYOR: Okay. 9 THE COURT: Exactly. 10 It is asking someone how they have Yes. or would cast their vote based on an issue. And I 11 12 think those are areas where the -- the only area 13 where I feel like I can do anything about that is 14 when someone has accused someone else of 15 fraudulently casting a ballot. And that is the only area where I have 16 17 such inherent authority I can overcome ballot 18 secrecy. 19 And this is not that. It is not, was your 20 ballot fraudulently cast. 21 MR. PRYOR: Your Honor, you raised an 22 issue earlier about abortion and about potential 23 jury members that have had abortions. I actually 24 didn't include that question in my list, but now I 25 think it should have been. And I kind of hem-hawed

1	all around it. It is probably boy, it is such
2	a I want to ask and then have them raise their
3	hands, and then you will have the numbers and then
4	we can talk? I mean, it is a terrible thing to ask,
5	I know but
6	THE COURT: So
7	MR. PRYOR: I'm not deciding
8	THE COURT: I couldn't in good conscious
9	let you ask for a show of hands. Right? I just
10	don't think I could do that. Because then it is
11	publicly shaming somebody.
12	If there is another way, tell me another
13	way. You know, whether, you know, including a
14	one-question juror information form addendum.
15	You know, there may be other ways to skin
16	the cat, but I don't think we can do that in a
17	public fashion.
18	Okay. So I will let you think about it.
19	Circle back with me before we end our pretrial
20	conference. See if you have a different method for
21	asking that question.
22	So the next one I put a note on is Carter
23	Question 11.
24	MR. HILL: Circle back on it.
25	THE COURT: Discussing abortion with

1	family members.
2	You know, I think this question is close.
3	I will probably allow it, but I'm going to limit any
4	follow-ups, right?
5	If they start talking about knock-down
6	drag-out fights at home, then that is probably
7	something that we shouldn't be talking about in the
8	group session, right?
9	The last the last thing we want is like
10	an old west bar, where one person says something and
11	everyone gets up and everyone turns on everyone.
12	When I talk about panel-busting questions,
13	usually for some people it is some theoretical,
14	mythical thing. Here is the real.
15	You don't want a person getting up and
16	saying something that triggers at least half the
17	room, and the old west bar fight arises, right?
18	That is where we bust a panel, and we don't need to
19	bust a panel here.
20	So I'm trying to be overly careful. So I
21	will let you ask question 11, but don't get into the
22	follow-ups, right? We don't want to bust it.
23	MR. PRYOR: Judge, do you want to ask some
24	of these questions?
25	THE COURT: I can ask some of them and

1	honestly, like, some of them, I might ask.
2	MR. PRYOR: I'm just saying, I think it
3	puts a particular onus on these parties and it is
4	going to sound better coming from you.
5	THE COURT: Yes.
6	MR. PRYOR: I just raise that issue. And
7	if the Court it is difficult for all of us to
8	deal with, but, unfortunately, we have to here.
9	THE COURT: That leads me to my next one.
10	So I will show you, right? When I email my list of
11	questions, you will see which ones I am asking. And
12	I will pick up a few on this topic.
13	Carter question 13 is one where I want to
14	ask, and I'm going to frame it in a slightly
15	different way.
16	So Carter question 13 is basically about
17	Dobbs. We know there is that, there is a leaked
18	draft in Dobbs, the real draft is not issued yet.
19	Let me tell y'all how I propose to talk to
20	the jury about Dobbs, and then y'all can pick me
21	apart at the end and tell me what I'm wrong on.
22	So this is what I plan on saying on the
23	Dobbs question. The Supreme Court recently did, or
24	did not we will choose our own adventure when it
25	comes time The Supreme Court recently did or did

1	not change its standard for whether states may
2	prohibit abortions. This case is not about whether
3	states may prohibit abortions. This question is
4	about whether the defendants violated Carter's
5	federal legal rights. The recent Supreme Court case
6	has no bearing on this case.
7	Do any of you feel so strongly about the
8	Supreme Court's recent case on abortion that you
9	wouldn't be able to put those personal views aside
10	and fairly apply the law to the facts of this case?
11	MR. GILLIAM: Sounds good.
12	THE COURT: We are trying to stay down the
13	middle.
14	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous.
14 15	
	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous.
15	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous. Understandably so.
15 16	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous. Understandably so. MR. GREENFIELD: I'm hesitant about most
15 16 17	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous. Understandably so. MR. GREENFIELD: I'm hesitant about most of this line of questioning. I think we are just
15 16 17 18	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous. Understandably so. MR. GREENFIELD: I'm hesitant about most of this line of questioning. I think we are just beelining for busting this jury pool and that is my
15 16 17 18 19	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous. Understandably so. MR. GREENFIELD: I'm hesitant about most of this line of questioning. I think we are just beelining for busting this jury pool and that is my concern from an efficiency standpoint.
15 16 17 18 19 20	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous. Understandably so. MR. GREENFIELD: I'm hesitant about most of this line of questioning. I think we are just beelining for busting this jury pool and that is my concern from an efficiency standpoint. I just have concerns that that will happen
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous. Understandably so. MR. GREENFIELD: I'm hesitant about most of this line of questioning. I think we are just beelining for busting this jury pool and that is my concern from an efficiency standpoint. I just have concerns that that will happen from that question.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Mr. Greenfield, you are nervous. Understandably so. MR. GREENFIELD: I'm hesitant about most of this line of questioning. I think we are just beelining for busting this jury pool and that is my concern from an efficiency standpoint. I just have concerns that that will happen from that question. THE COURT: So I get that concern. And

1	I feel like any case on abortion is
2	touchy. And for some reason, we picked the
3	touchiest time ever in the history of modern western
4	civilization to try this case.
5	So I feel like it is discoverable
6	information for both sides, right? I feel it cuts
7	both ways. Some people could be so happy or so mad
8	at the opinion that they are going to take it out on
9	Carter, Southwest or the Union. And I don't feel
10	like that is fair to y'all.
11	So I do feel like these kinds of questions
12	are why I'm getting 50 instead of 25. I'm hoping we
13	get eight impartial people in this group. We are
14	bound to. Eight people, who can set their personal
15	views aside, if they have them, and maybe they won't
16	have them.
17	MR. McKEEBY: Can I ask a procedural
18	question?
19	THE COURT: Yes.
20	MR. McKEEBY: Are the permissible voir
21	dires going to be provided to the parties in a
22	document from the Court? Are we going to go by the
23	pretrial order?
24	THE COURT: So, yes. Permissible voir
25	dire, it is basically going to be a pretrial order,

1	as modified by this.
2	So if there are any questions I'm
3	striking, I'm going to ask y'all at the end to order
4	the transcript, so y'all have it, so I have it.
5	And so you can go by yours, for example, I
6	cut out sentence 2 of question 10. And so I trust
7	that your team will scratch through, you know, that
8	page of the pretrial order number 24.
9	If you don't so I will have my
10	marked-up copy. And if you don't, I will try to
11	stop you and go, wait a minute, you are reading some
12	marked-up sentence.
13	Okay. So I'm letting you ask Question 11.
14	Question 13, I will ask instead, in the way I
15	formulated it.
16	So Carter question 17, there is a second
17	sentence in here that, again, I will just flag. I
18	will let you ask it, it is about discussions with
19	family or friends that become argumentative. I am
20	nervous, but I will let you ask it but not follow
21	up.
22	MR. McKEEBY: Judge, this one kind of
23	raises a point I wanted to ask.
24	THE COURT: Certainly.
25	MR. McKEEBY: It kind of gets to your

question about state court. 1 2 The first sentence, this case involves 3 discrimination against a person based on their 4 religion without an accommodation being offered is 5 kind of state court voir dire argumentative, which I would not expect in federal court. 6 Is that your -- are you okay with that? 7 THE COURT: Well -- and good point. 8 9 Can I have you flag that with a 10 disclaimer? We are arguing that this case is about, Because your view of what the case is about 11 right? is not necessarily what the evidence will show it to 12 13 be. 14 So can you disclaim that? And if there 15 are any other ones like that, for anyone's side, then we should disclaim. 16 17 Also, I handle -- if y'all ask like legal questions, like here is the standard, I ask y'all to 18 19 disclaim and say, We think at the end of this case 20 Starr will tell you the law is X, instead of -- the law is X. You are not the giver of the law, and I'm 21 22 not the giver of the law right now. I can't give it 23 until the end of the case. 24 So that disclaimer on a factual basis 25 makes sense.

1	MR. GREENFIELD: And, your Honor, how
2	would you like counsel, on either side, to handle
3	that sort of situation, if it is to come up?
4	Because I don't want stand up in front of the jury
5	pool and start hemming and hawing, if that starts
6	happening.
7	THE COURT: Yes. Just ask for a sidebar.
8	And I will try to patrol that as well.
9	We will get to this in just a second. It
10	is also a sensitive situation when another lawyer is
11	opening or closing, and so I ask for sidebars at the
12	end of that.
13	Now, if it is a question that they have
14	framed wrong, that is not how we talked about, you
15	can just stand up, I will see you and then I will
16	say, Hey, counsel can we huddle up right quick, and
17	then we will talk through it.
18	But, yes, if you've got a striking factual
19	assertion or any legal assertion, then you should
20	throw in a disclaimer.
21	We think that the facts will show X. We
22	think Starr will give you Y on the law.
23	And I will try to flag those as we go.
24	After I get through my concerns with their
25	questions, I will see if any of you have any

concerns and we'll make sure we are good on that set 1 2 of questions. 3 Okay. So, 17, we have the disclaimer we 4 are putting in. 5 MR. GILLIAM: We are going to strike through the second sentence. 6 THE COURT: So, the second sentence of 17, 7 I'm allowing but no follow-ups. Heated arguments 8 with your family, you can tell us, but we are not 9 going to have a follow-up. 10 Okay. 11 Eighteen is the next one I wanted 12 to talk through. 13 So I know we had talked about this in the 14 limine context, and there being at least some 15 exhibits that Mr. Greenfield thinks are in the trial record that do make reference to politicians, like 16 17 Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. What I want to say here is that it is 18 19 that -- so I think this question has a place, right? Like, if there an exhibit, the question has a place. 20 I think my concern is this second 21 22 sentence, which is asking about feelings on 23 political candidates, right? That gets back to more 24 secret ballot things. 25 But, you know, if they have been to a

1	protest or something like that, obviously that is
2	publicly associating them in a way that makes it
3	discoverable.
4	I think you can also ask, not whether your
5	view of a candidate will influence your vote, but I
6	think you can ask whether a view of the candidate
7	will influence your verdict, right? The verdict is
8	what does matter. You can absolutely ask that and
9	that is your third question. I think that hits the
10	nail on the head.
11	So it's the second sentence that I
12	disallowed. I think it is the third sentence that I
13	think is hyper-relevant that I will allow.
14	Those are the only ones that I wanted to
15	flag on Carter's questions.
16	Let me ask for Southwest, are there any
17	other ones beyond that disclaimer to question 17,
18	Mr. McKeeby, you want to flag for me?
19	MR. McKEEBY: No.
20	THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Greenfield, are
21	there any other ones that you want to flag?
22	MR. GREENFIELD: Not at this point, your
23	Honor.
24	THE COURT: If anyone has any that they
25	have late-breaking thoughts on, send them over

1	email, you know, as soon as you can. Let's try to
2	keep these things adjudicated well on the front end
3	so people can prep their thoughts on voir dire.
4	Let's go ahead and take a break. I know
5	we haven't gotten to Local 556 or Southwest's
6	questions.
7	I don't have honestly, I have one out
8	of those, or two. But let's talk about after maybe
9	a 10-minute break. Then we will come back on the
10	record and finish up.
11	So court is in recess for 10 minutes. We
12	will see y'all at 10:40.
13	THE COURT SECURITY OFFICER: All rise.
14	(Recess.)
15	THE COURT SECURITY OFFICER: All rise.
16	THE COURT: Thank you. You can be seated.
17	Before we talk about the other proposed
18	voir dire questions, I wanted to flag one thing.
19	The Clerk's office told us that Chief
20	Judge Lynn is picking a criminal jury the morning of
21	July 5th in that same jury assembly room. So they
22	are flagging for us, they are not sure if she will
23	be finished in time for us to use the room at 1:00.
24	Kevin is going to look at an alternate
25	room, the Red River room, to see if that is a viable

1	space for us to run with or we just wait until Chief
2	Judge Lynn is done.
3	We are getting creative and thinking
4	through other options, too. We will pick our jury
5	that day, we just don't know what room we will pick
6	it in.
7	Kevin will scout out a viable alternative
8	in case that room is still booked at 1:00.
9	So we covered Carter's questions on
10	processed voir dire.
11	On Local 556's, I didn't have any that
12	jumped out at me, but I want to ask if anyone else
13	has any concerns about Local 556's questions.
14	Any questions with Local 556?
15	MR. McKEEBY: Not from Southwest.
16	MR. GILLIAM: No.
17	THE COURT: Okay. Then let's go to
18	Southwest's questions.
19	I think I just had two that I wanted to
20	talk about.
21	Questions 1 and 20 were the ones I
22	flagged.
23	Well, I may have the wrong one. Instead
24	of 1, I should have said 5?
25	Five is, Have you donated to any nonprofit

1	or religious organizations; if so, which ones?
2	So the nonprofit or religious organization
3	question is one that to me gets more like secret
4	ballot for voting.
5	Where the Fifth Circuit has the drawn the
6	line on affiliation versus overt public activity, I
7	think the problem here is with regard to religion,
8	it is the tenet of many religions to donate back to
9	the religious institution.
10	So I think donation can look a lot more
11	like affiliation. And that might even be true for
12	secular non-profits.
13	The Supreme Court case from 2020 on
14	California's law compelling nonprofits to disclose
15	their donors list. Americans for Prosperity
16	Foundation versus Bonta.
17	I know it was a different legal framework
18	that the Court was analyzing but I think it has a
19	rough analogy here, when we are telling people who
20	they've given money to and that is a
21	quintessentially private context.
22	I think there is an expectation of privacy
23	that we don't pierce in even voir dire absent a
24	compelling need.
25	I think there is not a compelling need if

we can get to someone's overt activities, right? 1 And that's what the Fifth Circuit has said in other 2 3 religious question cases for voir dire. 4 If someone is going to a rally or 5 something like that, then they have taken a step beyond writing a check to their church that only 6 7 they know about it, and are now going to this rally on this issue that their church has put together. 8 And so I think that is fine. 9 It is almost 10 like a Fourth Amendment search and seizure kind of feel to it from these cases where you might have a 11 reasonable expectation of privacy in your home. 12 13 But once you get out to the rally, 14 everything you are doing is public, so we can all 15 see about it but... So question 5, I don't think I can allow 16 17 5, because I think it does get to that expectation of privacy in donating to a nonprofit or affiliating 18 19 with a religion that I think is a bridge too far for 20 me under Fifth Circuit and Supreme Court precedents. 21 Question 20, does anyone here have strong 22 opinions about the recently-leaked draft of Dobbs? 23 I think that is the one where I said I 24 should take a bullet and handle that one. So I'll 25 do that you y'all don't need to ask 20, just like

1	Carter doesn't need to ask her formulation of the
2	Dobbs question.
3	Okay. Does anyone else have concerns on
4	Southwest's proposed questions?
5	I'm thumbing through them one last time to
6	see. I don't have any others.
7	Last call for Southwest's questions on
8	proposed voir dire.
9	MR. GILLIAM: Plaintiff doesn't have any.
10	THE COURT: Okay.
11	That wraps up the voir dire questions.
12	Any other questions on voir dire? I have
13	one more thing on voir dire unless someone else on
14	questions.
15	The one thing I have in the Fifth Circuit
16	pattern instructions, they require me to give sort
17	of a thumbnail sketch about every case in my
18	introductions.
19	So I basically track my thumbnail sketch
20	with y'all's stipulations.
21	I'm going to read my plan for it now, and
22	stop me at the end, if you have any if you have
23	any concerns about it.
24	Okay. This is not a criminal case. It is
25	a civil case. The plaintiff, the person who filed

1	this lawsuit, is Charlene Carter. She was a
2	Southwest Airlines flight attendant. All Southwest
3	Airlines flight attendants are represented by a
4	union called Transportation Workers Union Local 556.
5	Any issues in that paragraph?
6	MR. GILLIAM: None from plaintiff.
7	THE COURT: Okay. We have got three more
8	paragraphs.
9	So the second one is this: After being a
10	member of the Union for many years, Carter resigned
11	from Union membership and became what is called a
12	fee paying non-member objector. Carter expressed
13	her objections to the Union and Union leadership in
14	several ways, including by sending messages, making
15	posts on social media, and participating in an
16	effort to recall Union leadership.
17	Any objections to that paragraph?
18	MR. GILLIAM: No, your Honor.
19	MR. McKEEBY: No, your Honor.
20	THE COURT: Okay.
21	The third paragraph is: Carter is a
22	Christian who believes that abortion is the taking
23	of a human life, contrary to the teachings of the
24	Bible and the will of God. In January 2017, certain
25	Southwest Airlines flight attendants, who were

members of the Union, attended the Women's March in 1 2 Washington, DC. Later, Carter sent private Facebook messages to the Union president. Those messages 3 4 involved the Union's activities at the Women's March 5 and the topic of abortion. The Union president reported Carter's 6 7 messages to Southwest. Southwest fired Carter in March 2017. 8 9 MR. GREENFIELD: I think -- your Honor, if 10 I may, your Honor. 11 THE COURT: You may. I believe that limits to 12 MR. GREENFIELD: 13 a degree the content of the messages that were sent. 14 I think that is a partial recitation of what was 15 included in those messages. But it also, we would 16 contend, contain threats of violence against 17 President Stone. 18 THE COURT: So you have got two components 19 One, those weren't all the messages. 20 temporally before the March, there were other 21 messages. 22 MR. GREENFIELD: There was other messages 23 before the March. And then after the March, in the ones that you are discussing right now, there is 24 more included in those messages than just objecting 25

```
1
    to the Union expenditures, Union activity, et
 2
    cetera.
              THE COURT: Yes. Well, how can I say that
 3
    in a non-characterizing kind of way? Is the
 4
 5
    problem, right? I can't call it a threat, as a
 6
    iudge.
 7
              MR. GREENFIELD:
                               Right.
                          That is up to the jury to
 8
              THE COURT:
    determine if it is a threat.
 9
10
              MR. GREENFIELD: Potentially, a way to do
    it fairly to all sides would be to -- and I'm just
11
12
    talking out loud here -- reading the message itself?
13
    Potentially? Just so there is no discrepancy as to
14
    what actually was said. As is, I think it -- it is
15
   misleading.
16
              THE COURT: Any thoughts from anyone else
17
    on how to handle this?
              MR. McKEEBY: I have a different concern,
18
19
    not on that.
20
              THE COURT: Understood.
21
              Well, let me say just first on timing, you
22
    make a good point that there were messages before
23
    the March as well.
24
              And so I can change it to say, Carter sent
25
    private Facebook messages to the Union president
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1	before and after the March. Those messages after
2	the March involved the Union's activities at the
3	Women's March and the topic of abortion.
4	So I still need to think through how to
5	handle that. I mean, I don't like reading specific
6	evidence here because I think it highlights
7	evidence. So I don't know if there is another way
8	to do it.
9	I can keep thinking through it. Y'all can
10	keep thinking through it and communicate by email to
11	the Court, if there is a better way to do it.
12	What I will do after this is over, I will
13	have Mr. Frye email y'all out my version of the
14	thumbnail sketch of the case, just so you can see
15	the latest of where I'm at. If you have suggestions
16	on marking it up, you can send those back over
17	email.
18	Yeah, you have a different concern?
19	MR. McKEEBY: Yes.
20	The way it read makes it sound like the
21	only reason that the flight attendants went to
22	Washington was to attend the Women's March, when, in
23	fact, there was also a Union excuse me, a Women's
24	Committee Meeting that was kind of official Union
25	business. And so I think there should be some

1	modification of the language to reflect that.
2	THE COURT: All right. I will take a stab
3	at that and I will show y'all where my ultimate
4	language ends up later on today. Okay?
5	Let me ask Carter, any concerns from
6	Carter's team on where that paragraph is now?
7	MR. GILLIAM: The one about the Women's
8	March?
9	THE COURT: Yes.
10	MR. GILLIAM: No, not the way it is now.
11	THE COURT: Understood.
12	And anyone can flag for me concerns over
13	email at any point on what language I'm coming up
14	with.
15	Okay. The last paragraph is, Carter has
16	sued Southwest and the Union for purported
17	violations of federal laws, including laws that
18	protect speech and religion.
19	Southwest and the Union deny any
20	wrongdoing. That is why you are here.
21	I tried to keep it short and not get into
22	RLA versus Title VII and all of that.
23	Any questions or concerns on that last
24	paragraph?
25	

1	MR. GILLIAM: No objections from the
2	plaintiff.
3	MR. McKEEBY: I have a concern about the
4	reference to speech as opposed to opposition of
5	Union practices.
6	I don't think that is accurate to say that
7	the RLA protects speech per se.
8	THE COURT: So your argument would be laws
9	that protect opposition of Union practices and
10	religion?
11	MR. McKEEBY: Yes.
12	THE COURT: I will take a look at that.
13	MR. GREENFIELD: I would just mirror the
14	same concern, your Honor.
15	MR. GILLIAM: And for what it is worth,
16	your Honor, we did argue why RLA 152 third and
17	fourth do embrace speech as much as every other
18	activity.
19	Protections of association are actually
20	extended, too. I think we cited Bonda as part of
21	that.
22	THE COURT: All right. I will take a
23	look.
24	So we have talked about the time clock.
25	Let me just say for your time clock

expectations, I try to have my juries here in the 1 2 box 9 to 5, as the general rule. And an hour break 3 for lunch that we try to take around noon. 4 We basically have one morning break that 5 happens midmorning, which is around 10:30. We try to keep our breaks 10 minutes, so we keep the trial 6 7 moving. We try to take two 10-minute breaks in the 8 9 The first one is usually around 2:30; 10 the second one is usually around 3:45. I say that because if you have a witness 11 12 on the stand, we have two options of handling this, 13 as you approach one of those times, whether it is 14 10:30, noon, 2:30, 3:45, 5, as you approach one of 15 those times, I will give you some leeway, you know, 5 to 10 minutes to blow by that if you're getting to 16 17 good stopping point with a witness or finishing with a witness. 18 19 If you just keep plowing through it and ignoring the clock, I am going to have to step in at 20 the 5 or 10-minute mark and protect the jury's right 21 22 to go potty. 23 So I would rather let you call the break, 24 instead of me. But if you don't call it, I will. 25 Does that make sense?

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If you're wondering if you can get to a break, if you want to call a sidebar to talk about it, we can plow through it for a few extra minutes, that is fine, too. 4 That is on me, if you are trying to be efficient with the jury's time, then that sidebar time won't count against you. But our jurors will have kids or things after 5:00 that they have got to attend to. we go to 5 or 5:10, I usually don't hear complaints from the jurors. if we are blowing through to 5:30, and didn't give them a 24-hour heads up, so that they can make preparations, then things get dicey. 14 So 5:10, I don't have a problem with. we go beyond that, I'm just going to cut you off for their sake. So based on that, if we are rigid with our schedule and keep our break time to a minimum and our lunchtime to a minimum, we can usually get about six hours on the clock a day, right? In theory, it is seven hours, but then 21 when you take out lunch, then you take out the breaks and the inevitable time on changing witnesses 24 and things like that, that is -- that is time that 25 really doesn't count on the clock.

1 We have about six hours a day, if we have 2 12, six and six, it is basically four days of the 3 evidence phase of the trial. That time does count, closing argument, which goes past the evidence 4 5 It will take more than four days. So if we pick a jury on a Tuesday, we are getting close to at 6 7 the end of the day Monday or the beginning of the day on Tuesday the next week. But we will take some 8 9 time out of that to do a charge conference and hear 10 any directed verdict motions and then read the charge to the jury. Obviously, that doesn't count 11 12 against your time. The jury will probably get the 13 case on Tuesday. 14 Any questions on the time clock? 15 Okay. Let's talk about exhibit objections. 16 17 I'm not going to go through specific exhibits here. I know y'all will give me a new 18 19 exhibit list. And then the file sharing version, I 20 can't remember who did it, I think counsel for Southwest did it. That worked great last time. 21 So 22 if you have got any new exhibits, or if you just 23 want to dump, we changed some pages, it is just a 24 new, clean copy. Either way, that is fine. could swap out specific exhibits or do a dump of the 25

1 new ones. 2 As far as the exhibit objection protocol, I have got your status report, where you have got 3 4 your exhibit objection and response. 5 Assuming that attempted exhibit list doesn't change any of that, I will tell you how I 6 7 work through those. I try to minimize my sidebar time by 8 9 working through as many of those exhibit objections 10 outside the jury's hearing as possible. What we do is, the night before evidence 11 12 will happen the next day, at 6:00, whoever is 13 putting on evidence the next day, sends an email out 14 that says, Here are the witnesses we plan on putting 15 on tomorrow, and here are the exhibits we plan on 16 getting to tomorrow. 17 You don't have to tell me the order of your witnesses. You don't have to tell me the order 18 19 of the exhibits or what exhibits go with what witnesses. I just want to know for planning 20 purposes what witnesses do you think we will hear 21 22 from, what exhibits do you think that you will try 23 to put into evidence. 24 That is the 6 p.m. email from someone who

is putting on evidence the next day.

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At 8 p.m., I like to see a response from the other side that says, Hey, we already let you know our objections to those exhibits in the status report, here are the ones we are still maintaining, right? So you propose to put on 20 exhibits tomorrow. We file objections to 10. We are still maintaining those 10. If you want to give me even more detail about your objection than you gave in the status report, you can do that. You can talk to me like we are at a sidebar, right? We only speak in code when the jury can hear us. At a sidebar, you can speak normally. You don't have to say hearsay or 806. You can talk to me normally. You can do that in the email as well. And y'all did in the status report, and I appreciate that. You don't have to say anything extra beyond what you said in the status report. I just need to know you are still maintaining your objections. What I do is I stay up late a night, look at the exhibits, look at the objections, and then the next morning, we come in at 8:30 and we go through one at a time. And y'all can give me some more argument, just like we would be at a sidebar.

You can spend even more time than we would at a 1 2 sidebar, make sure we get our exhibit rulings right. 3 What we do is then I rule on that objection. And then when that exhibit is offered 4 5 into evidence, later on when the jury shows up, at 9:30, they are there. We have already ruled on the 6 7 objections to Exhibit 1. And then Carter says, Offer Exhibit 1 into evidence. And then I will look 8 9 to y'all and y'all can say same objections. 10 that relates back to our status report, where y'all filed them in writing, and our discussion from that 11 12 morning on the record, where y'all made your more 13 in-depth argument. 14 And I will say same ruling as this 15 morning, I'm overruling the objections. It is admitted and you can publish, right? 16 17 And then Kevin and I will unmute the jury 18 monitors and they can see the exhibit. 19 We handle exhibit objections that way --20 well, I only do this in trials where the lawyers are 21 good at cooperating with each other. In trials 22 where the lawyers are unprofessional, I save all of 23 that for trial. And I say, if you want to object, 24 you have got to come over here to a sidebar. You 25 can speak in code in front of the jury, objection,

1 hearsay or objection, 806. 2 But if you want to explain your objection, you have got to come over here to sidebar. And the 3 4 loser of the sidebar gets the time tagged against 5 them. That is my process for unprofessional 6 7 lawyers. Because they just like cutting each up and incentivize them not to cut each other up because 8 9 that wastes the jury time. 10 For y'all, I think y'all are professional enough to where I want to reward y'all. I want to 11 12 get here early and make sure y'all can use your time 13 efficiently, not at sidebar, but instead walking 14 through an exhibit with the jury. 15 So questions on that protocol? Yes. I think we alluded to 16 MR. McKEEBY: 17 this earlier. We are planning on conferring about perhaps streamlining the exhibits which might result 18 19 in effectively a new list. 20 Is that going to create problems with utilizing the joint status report if we have new 21 22 numbers or how do you want to --23 How about this? Can y'all THE COURT: 24 give me a new snippet from the status report that 25 has your objections in it? Does that make sense?

This exhibit may move to this number, it may have a 1 2 few pages redacted out, cut out. That is all fine 3 by me. 4 My main concern is I have the objections 5 and the responses from the status report with the 6 same numbers you are now going to proceed with on 7 your exhibit list. What I don't want y'all to do is reopen 8 9 and rehash all new exhibit objections. But I trust, 10 again, y'all are professionals, so I trust that, you know, if anyone is doing that, you will call it to 11 12 my attention. 13 But thank you for flagging that. And, 14 again, I'm not going to turn to these until -- what 15 is it? Tuesday night at 6:00. I will get Carter's 16 first email that says, here are our witnesses and 17 exhibits for Wednesday. And at 8 p.m., I will get y'all's email. It is not like I'm reviewing those 18 19 I will review those nightly before right now. 20 trial. So now y'all can have a document and make 21 22 sure that it is correct and it won't steamroll any 23 of my work. 24 Yes, that is the process, is, you know, 25 obviously Tuesday night, we will have the Wednesday

disclosures by email. 1 Wednesday, here is the 2 objections we are maintaining from both opposing 3 counsel. 4 The only awkwardness comes to when there 5 is a day that Carter might hand the baton over. Ιf we start getting to that point, I will flag it and 6 7 say, Okay, y'all are going to need to, tonight, say if we get to you tomorrow, who you want to put on 8 witness- and exhibit-wise. 9 10 How I handle protocol with multi-defendants is, my default is to go by the 11 12 order of the complaint, right? 13 So if they hand the baton over, they rest. 14 Then I'm going to say Southwest can call its first 15 witness, unless y'all tell me otherwise. amenable to y'all having some sort of agreement, 16 17 actually the Union is going to put on witnesses first, or you are going to intermingle for witness 18 19 scheduling reasons. That is fine by me. 20 But I will look over at you, I will give you the default that Southwest is next. Y'all can 21 22 tell me if you have an agreement to override that 23 default. 24 That is also true for cross-examining one 25 of Carter's witnesses. I will look to Southwest

first, but if y'all agree that the Union should go 1 2 first, that is fine by me. I don't care. 3 Any questions on that sort of protocol? 4 I will try to keep an eye on the clock and 5 make sure I know the day I think we are handing the baton over, so that that night before we know that 6 7 someone from the defense needs to designate witnesses and exhibits to fill up part of the day. 8 9 I'm going to flag one thing right Okav. 10 quick, which is, I don't think it is going to be an issue for y'all because I think y'all are agreeable 11 12 people. 13 Not every email is a business record. So 14 for people who vehemently object to everyone else's 15 exhibits, this becomes -- it sounds like y'all are probably going to be agreeable coming in and not 16 17 hashing through objections too much. But not every email, not every piece of an 18 19 email is a business record exception. 20 I'm going to read off a case citation that is very enlightening from Eastern District of 21 22 Louisiana that maps all of this out. 23 It is In Re: Oil Spill. It's a Deep 24 Water Horizon case, the MDL. And the citation is 25 2012 WestLaw 85447. And the pinpoint is at Star 3,

where they walk through the five elements you've got 1 to prove to really get in the full email in the 2 3 business record exception. 4 No one knows it. And I expect that y'all 5 have professional agreements to not just hash through each other's exhibits. It seems like that 6 7 is the case. I hope that is the case for y'all's sake because it is much better for you and the jury, 8 9 if that is true. 10 Any questions on exhibit protocol? Okay. Let me flag one more thing for y'all. 11 12 I don't send exhibits back to the jury 13 room unless they were admitted. So just because 14 y'all have agreed that there are no foundation or 15 authenticity objections doesn't mean that that stack of exhibits will go back to the jury room. 16 17 Even if there are no additional objections, right? 18 You still have a witness on the stand. 19 20 You put the exhibit in front of them, offer for its 21 admission. It is only that subset that I admit into 22 evidence that goes back to the jury room. 23 Otherwise, it becomes a trial by document back in 24 the jury room of documents that they have never seen before, instead of being a trial by the spoken word. 25

1	And courtrooms, since the dawn of man, has always
2	been where the spoken word is king.
3	So I will still let you have a streamline
4	process and preadmit things for foundation or
5	authenticity reasons, that will speed things up.
6	But it doesn't mean all 100 exhibits go back to the
7	jury room.
8	Any questions on that?
9	Okay. So I have nothing further on
10	exhibits.
11	Witnesses is next on my list to talk
12	about.
13	So I see the listing of witness issues and
14	the status report at Doc 2060. I think there are
15	maybe three groups we should talk about in group
16	fashion, and relatedly, at the end of this
17	discussion, we will talk about depo designations and
18	whether our witnesses are unavailable or whether
19	they will be here.
20	But let's talk about these witness issues
21	first.
22	So I think the first group is Southwest
23	and the Union objecting to Carter's witnesses,
24	Rutherford, Burdine, Conlon, Kleburne, and Hudson.
25	So I read the objections from the

1	Defendants as being that these folks were not named
2	in the initial disclosures.
3	And Carter's response is that they were
4	named by Southwest's corporate rep during that depo
5	and that Southwest isn't prejudiced by Southwest not
6	naming them in its disclosures.
7	Anything Carter to add to that?
8	MR. GILLIAM: I think as we noted, but
9	also that many of these were people we couldn't have
10	known were involved in the investigation.
11	So when we were doing the initial
12	disclosures, the onus was really on the Union and
13	Southwest to disclose those people's identities to
14	us, in addition to everything else.
15	THE COURT: Understood.
16	Can I get a take from Southwest or the
17	Union on this group of witnesses?
18	MR. McKEEBY: Yes, you can.
19	In response to that point, the deposition
20	of Mike Sims occurred on November 2nd of 2020. If
21	they wanted to plaintiff wanted to amend her
22	disclosures to identify these witnesses, she had
23	every opportunity to do so.
24	So to say that it was Southwest or the
25	Union's, frankly, obligation to identify witnesses,

1	it is just not I think contrary to the language
2	and spirit of the rule.
3	THE COURT: So but why would they have to
4	identify witnesses that came up with a Sims depo
5	that were Southwest employees?
6	MR. McKEEBY: Because the disclosures are
7	designed to tell us who they intend to call as
8	witnesses in this case.
9	THE COURT: All right.
10	What is the Union's take? And then I will
11	hear the final word from Carter.
12	MR. GREENFIELD: We mirror the position of
13	Southwest.
14	THE COURT: Okay.
15	Carter, what is the final position on this
16	group of witnesses?
17	MR. GILLIAM: I'm sorry. What is our
18	position?
19	THE COURT: Yes.
20	Do you have anything to add?
21	Particularly, I'm trying to get at the
22	initial disclosure obligations, right? I know your
23	argument is that they knew about them, their
24	argument is that the list is not so much about who
25	you know about, but who you are wanting to go

1	depose.
2	MR. GILLIAM: I don't understand Rule 26
3	to at least provide an obligation to disclose the
4	names under under (a)(1)A what is it? Roman
5	numeral 1 to alert them to call at trial.
6	We are giving them initial disclosures of
7	who we believe has knowledge of the case.
8	THE COURT: Yes. So I guess here is my
9	thought on this. I get both different views of Rule
10	26.
11	In this context, given that the
12	information was more specifically in Southwest's
13	hands, I think that inherently that would more come
14	up with Southwest's disclosures, initial
15	disclosures, and then we'd hear if they are going to
16	depose them.
17	How we sit here today, I would be inclined
18	to let them call this group of witnesses at trial.
19	The awkwardness is they haven't been deposed. I can
20	see both sides wanting to depose them, or not.
21	And so my question is, do you want to try
22	to depose them between now and trial?
23	I'm happy to talk about that. And I have
24	ordered that in past cases, if we are sitting here
25	with an issue of not hearing witness testimony

I'm happy to hear if 1 before we come into trial. 2 anyone wants to have a quick depo of a witness. 3 Potentially, with a couple MR. GILLIAM: 4 of them. 5 I think that that might be -- I quess -- I guess my initial reaction is potentially. I hate to 6 7 delay the trial or the trial proceedings. That is 8 my concern. 9 THE COURT: And I would say, I'm not going 10 to, right? So I have had cases where I had the normal 11 12 one week on Monday, you have the pretrial, the 13 following Monday you have a trial. And some short 14 depos happen by Zoom Thursday and Friday. And then 15 at trial no one was flying blind because everyone had talked to them. 16 17 That is kind of the situation I'm amenable And I would shorten the six-hour limit, 18 19 given that there are scheduling issues. I would say maybe a two-hour limit. You don't need six hours to 20 have the beginning of the case, feel out everything 21 22 a person knows. This is the end of the case. 23 pretty know what you are up against, and I wouldn't 24 inconvenient anybody for six hours. But for two 25 over Zoom, sure.

1	MR. GILLIAM: And with your with your
2	advisement that it would not delay trial, then I
3	would say, yes, we would want to depose.
4	THE COURT: Okay. Let me hear from
5	Southwest. I'm not going to order this just yet. I
6	want to hear their concerns.
7	MR. McKEEBY: I mean, the concern is just
8	a matter of timing, given I don't know how many
9	depositions we are talking about.
10	I mean, we are talking about a lot of
11	people. I just don't think it is practical to
12	require us to produce a half dozen witnesses for
13	deposition when we are trying to gear up and
14	coordinate with respect to an amended exhibit list
15	and get ready for trial.
16	I think that is too much of a burden given
17	that they had the opportunity to take these
18	depositions during the normal course. I don't think
19	that is fair, and we would object to it on that
20	ground.
21	THE COURT: Do you recall what date Sims'
22	deposition was? I can't remember it. I wasn't
23	aware of it.
24	MR. McKEEBY: November 2nd, 2020.
25	THE COURT: November 2nd.

1	And when was the discovery cutoff in this
2	case?
3	MR. GILLIAM: The initial discovery
4	cutoff, when that deposition was taken, was
5	November 30th of 2020.
6	And you may recall, your Honor, that we
7	sought to extend the discovery deadlines for various
8	reasons. And then that was granted, May 5th,
9	2021 I believe around the beginning of May. I
10	may be wrong on the actual day.
11	And that was extended, I want to say, late
12	July 2021, maybe early August 2021.
13	THE COURT: So can I ask why there weren't
14	any depo notices after the extension of the fact
15	discovery cutoff?
16	MR. GILLIAM: I think that we were trying
17	to conduct some initial discovery and with some of
18	the other discovery issues, we continued to face
19	with getting into some of the initial discovery, we
20	just ran out of time. We didn't have time to
21	conduct additional depositions.
22	THE COURT: Okay.
23	So here what I plan on doing on this one,
24	I'm planning on allowing depos. I'm going to limit
25	them to one hour.

1 I think there is exposure on both sides 2 I think Southwest could have named these 3 people in the amended initial disclosures. 4 I think y'all also had some knowledge of them, right? 5 So there is risk on both sides. the end of the day, if I do plan on allowing them to 6 be called for trial, I think it is fairest to both 7 sides to be able to have them sit for a depo. 8 9 I will allow it by Zoom. I will allow 10 everyone to be in different rooms, right? I don't want to inconvenience people's travel schedules. 11 So 12 one hour max for the deposition by a lawyer from 13 Carter on any of these witnesses. 14 If there are scheduling issues that are 15 coming up, let me know, and I will figure out if there is any -- any changes we need to make. 16 17 I hate doing this, but sometimes there are times where you can have someone out sitting in the 18 19 The person can only come in for their hall, right? 20 trial appearance and there can be a person out sitting in the hall. I don't like doing that, but 21 22 sometimes it is better than nothing. 23 We will figure out what kind of 24 accommodations we need to make sure people's 25 schedules don't need to change.

1 Your Honor, I already know MR. McKEEBY: 2 that there are major scheduling issues, at least 3 with respect to trial attendance with some of these witnesses. We didn't understand that they were 4 5 going to be part of the case. I have a witness that is going to be Kuwai 6 7 from July 1st to July 8th. Another witness who going to be in Jamaica from July 1st through 8 9 July 8th. 10 And so another practical concern is that, but also, you know, in terms of trial, I mean, for 11 Southwest -- for folks that Southwest has control 12 13 over, then certainly we will work with them in terms 14 of coordinating a time to take one-hour depositions, 15 hopefully not too many. But in terms of trial attendance, I have 16 17 those concerns. And also, I got -- yesterday a process server showed up at my office and served me 18 19 with 15 subpoenas for these folks, many of whom are not Southwest employees. Many of whom are well 20 outside of the 100-mile limitation for subpoenas. 21 22 I don't, frankly, know what to do with 23 these trial subpoenas other than perhaps file a motion to quash. But I -- I didn't -- I'm not 24 25 authorized to accept service with respect to trial

1	subpoenas.
2	THE COURT: Can I pause that right quick?
3	So I have got two other groups of
4	witnesses who had these witness issues from the
5	status report.
6	And then I think we need to talk about
7	availability of witnesses and trial subpoenas as
8	perhaps a discrete issue.
9	But so bucket one, I just want to make it
10	clear, like, Southwest do everything you can to make
11	sure that these five this is Rutherford, Burdine,
12	Conlan, Kleburne, Hudson, have an hour max
13	deposition. It can be by Zoom from anywhere before
14	trial starts.
15	If that becomes an issue, then we can talk
16	about, do we need to allow it to happen after trial
17	starts.
18	Bucket two of folks was to I guess it
19	is Southwest's objections to Carter witnesses,
20	Lacore and Shaffer.
21	Southwest's objection is they were copied
22	on investigation emails and they lack relevant
23	information.
24	So what I will say here is, I don't think
25	that these witnesses need to sit for a depo, right,

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if you are telling me that they lack relevant
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 2
    knowledge.
              What I'm going to do is, though, I don't
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    sideline fact witnesses in their entirety.
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              I could on an expert, right? If an expert
    has something that is so critically defective under
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    the Daubert standard, that I'm just going to
    sideline them.
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              But if it is a fact witness, the fact
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    witness can show up and say what their name is.
                                                      So
    I don't sideline fact witnesses on that basis.
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              But if they lack relevant information
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    beyond that, then question two may have an
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    objection, right? Or it may not be an objection, I
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    don't know about that, right?
              This is where I put the time clock in
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    place because if they want to call that witness and
    put them on the stand, when you said they lack
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    relevant information, that is a big gamble. Because
    if the witness says, Hey, I don't have anything and
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    they have burned some of their time, that is also an
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    inefficiency that makes me not want to extend their
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    time, if they run out of it and ask for more.
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              So how it stands now is, I wouldn't have
    these folks sit for a depo, but I wouldn't exclude
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them from trial. And I think that puts the onus 1 2 back on Carter to make sure they are calling people 3 that have relevant knowledge. 4 Questions about how I plan on handling 5 this bucket with Shaffer and Lacore? 6 MR. McKEEBY: One observation, I guess. 7 Shaffer is one of the people who is not a Southwest employee, so I don't have any control over 8 9 her. 10 THE COURT: Yes. 11 Let's give that bucket 4. So bucket 4 is 12 availability, and there is plenty to talk about 13 there. 14 Bucket 3, Carter objections to defense 15 witnesses, Sims, and particular questions on the 16 scope of Carter. 17 So on Sims, I guess Carter is objecting to the last chance agreement, offer to reinstate her 18 19 The step two grievance hearing and the employment. arbitration hearing. The basis would be lack of 20 relevance, prejudice, inadmissible settlement offer. 21 22 So in my written order, I denied a limine 23 point on excluding testimony and evidence about the 24 last chance agreement. I think 408, not everything 25 stays out. It has got to have another purpose.

I think I spelled that out in the written 1 2 order yesterday. 3 But, of course, that was on the last 4 chance agreement. This argument is broader, it 5 includes step two grievance hearing, the arbitration 6 hearing. So I will say some of this involves 7 exhibit issues, right? And exhibit objections. 8 9 then I'm still digging into arbitration, whether or 10 not that would come in, the arbiter's finding would come in as an exhibit or not. 11 So some of these things I can't get until 12 13 we have our emails the night before and our 14 discussions at 8:30. 15 Is there anything else that Carter wants to argue on this at this point in time knowing that 16 17 I may be a little stymied in not being able to rule clearly, unless it is in the context of an exhibit? 18 19 I think that it's there, MR. GILLIAM: too, but also, I think this falls into the category 20 of testimony from Mr. Sims regarding 21 22 post-termination proceedings, not specifically the 23 last chance agreement itself. 24 But to the extent that it involves, say, 25 the Union's representation, Mike Sims was the VP for

1	Southwest and In Flight, but he was post-termination
2	proceedings.
3	So that is the other thing to make a
4	slight distinction with to contrast it from the
5	last chance agreement itself.
6	THE COURT: Understood.
7	Then let me ask, can I get some flavor
8	from Southwest on what the post-termination
9	proceedings were?
10	I guess I'm trying to figure out, like,
11	what they were, what is their relevance.
12	MR. McKEEBY: I don't know. I'm not sure
13	what he's talking about.
14	THE COURT: Can I ask for a clarification,
15	then?
16	MR. GILLIAM: Sure.
17	That is the grievance the Union filed and
18	that Sims reviewed after Charlene Carter was
19	terminated.
20	MR. McKEEBY: Okay. So that is the step
21	two grievance?
22	MR. GILLIAM: The step two grievance
23	proceeding.
24	MR. McKEEBY: That, again, was another
25	layer of the process in which Southwest reviewed and

assessed the decision whether it was the right 1 2 decision. 3 Mike Sims sits over that process as part 4 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, and rendered 5 the decision, after which is when he presented Carter with the last chance agreement. 6 It is part of the process. It is 7 fundamental to the fairness associated with the 8 9 process, and so there is no reason to limit that 10 evidence. 11 And, your Honor, if I MR. GREENFIELD: 12 may, as well, I think Mr. Sims' testimony in that 13 regard is also crucial to the Union's claims of duty 14 of fair representation. 15 His role in that and what influence the Union may have had over Southwest in Carter's 16 17 ultimate termination, et cetera, I think that is all crucial to our showing in this case. 18 19 THE COURT: Understood. 20 Then I will just stick to my prior rational on limine point where I said this is part 21 22 of the story that Southwest and the Union can 23 continue to tell. 24 Again, relevance, if you are going to spend all your time on it, that may be unwise. 25

I think -- I can't let you carve it out. I think it 1 2 has some relevance to the claims. 3 Understood Carter was also objecting to 4 testifying on the Union's representation during the 5 grievance process. The argument is that that is irrelevant 6 7 and prejudicial. I think based on my prior rulings, I think I need to allow this to come in, right? 8 Ιt 9 is the completion of the story that needs to be told 10 on behalf of Southwest and the Union. So I don't think I can make it off limits for Carter when I'm 11 not making it off limits for other witnesses. 12 13 So now, on witnesses, what we need Okay. 14 to do is talk about availability of witnesses, 15 right? So I have that filing that y'all made last 16 17 night on witness availability. So obviously -well, and that is Carter's filing. 18 19 And I know Carter had raised specific witnesses that were Emlet, Guttierez, Parker and 20 21 Schneider. You may have more you want to raise, but 22 this is sort of the question that I'm working 23 through is, if this is a situation where Southwest 24 still employs them, then even if they are beyond 100 25 miles, they are still under the control of

1	Southwest, so we need to get them here.
2	If it is a scheduling issue and I'm
3	trying to think what the last day of trial will be.
4	I will say that I'm easy to please when it
5	comes to witness scheduling. If there is a final
6	day we think y'all are putting on evidence and some
7	of your witnesses will only be back in Texas for
8	that final day, that is fine by me.
9	I don't care that you may have witnesses
10	that bookend to the Union's witnesses, if that makes
11	sense. That is not a problem in my mind at all.
12	MR. McKEEBY: I almost feel like we need
13	to go over each witness individually. The ones that
14	you have identified, Guttierez and Imlet are no
15	longer Southwest employees. Both have indicated
16	that they will cooperate and appear.
17	But to say that I have control over them
18	is another matter.
19	Mr. Schneider
20	THE COURT: Can we take them one at a
21	time?
22	Let's do Guttierez first. Guttierez is a
23	former employee?
24	MR. McKEEBY: Correct.
25	THE COURT: And yeah, you got to my

question, Mr. McKeeby, which is, there are plenty of 1 2 formers who will still cooperate. And so that was not my question, but your 3 4 form is, will they be willing to. If they won't, 5 then we need to go through a separate analysis. Ιf they will, I'm fine accommodating schedules as much 6 7 as I can, which includes -- and let me just be super clear on this, if only you are calling that witness, 8 who is out of the U.S. or former employee, and they 9 10 can get there for a last day of trial, in my view what I can do is allow that witness to go out of 11 12 turn and you can rest conditionally. 13 For example, you rest, but we have two 14 other witnesses who were all playing nice and 15 accommodating their schedules. And if when we do that, then anytime there 16 17 is a directed verdict motion, I take it up at the end, once you've met the condition and gotten in 18 19 your final witness. 20 But I view that notion where the plaintiff's evidence got in everything they wanted 21 22 to, but I sidelined the defense evidence that came 23 in, during the period of time we were waiting on the 24 plaintiff's other witness to show up. Does that 25 make sense?

1 MR. GILLIAM: I think so. 2 THE COURT: I try to be as accommodating 3 as I can to y'all on witness schedules. And so for the bucket of people who can make it late in trial, 4 5 after they have already rested conditionally, then we would take them out of turn. 6 7 MR. McKEEBY: Okay. But I don't know Ms. Guttierez's schedule. All I know is she 8 9 indicated a willingness to come to trial. So I just -- I can't speak to the level of 10 11 specificity that I think you are contemplating. 12 THE COURT: Well -- and so my thought is 13 what it comes next to is, if you have a witness who 14 is not under your control but otherwise willing, 15 then what we need to hear from Carter is -- and I don't need to be in the middle of this -- but 16 17 proposed dates, right? So Carter, if you have got 12 hours, 18 19 obviously, you are not the only one questioning witness at first, right? That 12 hours is your 20 direct mixed with their cross. 21 22 I think you need to start finding dates 23 for when you would take each witness. We are going 24 to have opening argument on Wednesday, July 6th. 25 But then before lunch, we are off to the races on

1 witnesses. 2 So what I would like y'all to do is by the 3 end of the day try to send a list to Southwest of what days you would like witnesses. And then if 4 5 Southwest is representing those -- I mean, I understand -- I represented when I was in private 6 7 practice, I represented formers as well. You might be representing them but not 8 9 controlling them. And so I get that distinction 10 very clearly. 11 You can pass along those dates and see if 12 they work. If they don't, then we will have 13 out-of-bound dates, right, which is, we expect this 14 case to go to the jury on that Tuesday of the 15 following week. Is there any time in there that you can make this work. 16 17 So if you can get the preferred dates, and then if that doesn't work, we will talk through the 18 19 fallback dates where you take the witnesses after you have already rested conditionally. 20 21 MR. GREENFIELD: And, your Honor, if the 22 Union can be looped into that conversation because 23 with at least a couple of the witnesses there is

similar control sort of issues, but some willingness

on the part of at least some of the witnesses to

24

25

1	attend. But, again, not in our control to make them
2	be here.
3	THE COURT: Got it.
4	Okay. So Guttierez is a former, who has
5	at least expressed intent to cooperate.
6	MR. McKEEBY: Correct.
7	THE COURT: Let's keep going through all
8	of those for Southwest and Union, and we will figure
9	out who is in what bucket.
10	But I do think regardless of what bucket
11	they are in, we need Carter to say perhaps what
12	witnesses since they are pretty much all of your
13	witnesses, say what witnesses they would like to
14	take on what days so we can try to match up
15	schedules.
16	MR. McKEEBY: And one thing I would note
17	about Guttierez that distinguishes her from some of
18	the others is that she's local, the fact that she's
19	here.
20	THE COURT: Okay. So that is Guttierez.
21	Who is the next one that you mentioned?
22	MR. McKEEBY: Imlet, I believe.
23	THE COURT: Imlet.
24	MR. McKEEBY: She's similar in that she's
25	a former employee, who has expressed a willingness

1 to appear. 2 She is different in that she lives in 3 Colorado, so she would be flying in. 4 THE COURT: Okay. 5 Who should we talk about next? MR. McKEEBY: Mr. Schneider is a current 6 7 Southwest employee who lives in Colorado. He will be flying in. 8 9 Again, what I would ask is that we confer 10 about -- to the extent that they want to call him as part of their case-in-chief, the protocol that you 11 12 just described sounds good to me in terms of 13 identifying a time to require him to be here. 14 I guess one other question, though, for 15 someone like him, and, I guess, Imlet and Guttierez 16 as well, to the extent they are being called as part 17 of their case-in-chief, am I going to be allowed to question them fully on, I guess, it is redirect 18 19 or do I -- because I don't -- what I don't want to do is have to have him sit here in Dallas and wait 20 until we are ready for him. 21 22 Is that going to being acceptable? 23 I am thrilled about trying THE COURT: 24 this case because y'all are asking these questions. 25 Normally this question comes up after all

of the three rounds of questioning of a witness. 1 2 And I say, am I excusing you? Parties, let's come 3 huddle at sidebar. 4 And then they say, well, yeah, we would 5 like to keep him. Did you ask all the questions that you wanted to. Cross-examining lawyer, well, 6 7 Okay. Well, we should have covered that on the front end. 8 I'm thrilled that you are smart enough to 9 That is in my outline. Thank you 10 bring that up. 11 for bringing that up. Here is how I handle these. I prefer if 12 13 it is out-of-town witnesses, for the parties to be 14 okay handling them all at once, if they can, right? 15 In which case I would allow a wide open cross, 16 right? Ask any question you want to, and when we 17 are done with a witness, we are done. That is how I prefer we handle it. 18 19 are some times when there is an acute reason from the plaintiff where they can't have those questions 20 that are on wide-open cross cluttering up their case 21 for directed verdict reasons. 22 23 But yeah, I think we're going to have a 24 slightly odd record because I think we may have some 25 records that have to get taken at the very end of

1 the case. 2 I can segment directed verdict things all 3 day long, right? 4 So my preference is for out-of-town 5 witnesses, let's handle them all at once, let's do wide open cross. After we are done with all the 6 7 questions, we will huddle at sidebar, everyone good with letting them go. 8 If not, we will talk about it. And I can 9 excuse from trial, from the trial stand, but not 10 from the trial and make them subject to recall 11 12 later. 13 Any questions or concerns on that? 14 MR. McKEEBY: Your Honor, I just wanted it 15 to be stated and not unspoken, I think it is assumed from this conversation, but we do want all of these 16 17 witnesses during our case-in-chief. I would assume that that is 18 THE COURT: 19 your preference. And that is why I am expecting in the communication by the end of the day, you would 20 want them all before your calculation as of when you 21 22 would rest, right? Does that make sense? 23 So that is my guess. 24 And that makes sense to me. I think you 25 should ask that, as an initial matter, if we have

travel plans with a couple witnesses who makes that 1 2 difficult, then we can start talking about if we 3 take them out of turn. 4 But I do have a preference for handling 5 out-of-town witnesses all at once. If they are in town, I don't care. If you want to deal with them, 6 7 I think that is great and the jury likes hearing from them once. But it doesn't mean that I'm going 8 to force you on an out-of-town witness -- on an 9 10 in-town witness to handle them at once. So we have covered Guttierez and 11 12 Schneider. 13 MR. GREENFIELD: Your Honor, if I may, 14 just to back up, the only thing I see as a potential issue or conflict on that is if certain individuals 15 aren't necessarily held to the end, then potentially 16 17 calling them back as a rebuttal witness for testimony that would come out after they were here. 18 19 That would be the only kind of caveat I 20 see that could create an issue for our presentation, at least. 21 It is. And so I never mind 22 THE COURT: 23 calling a witness back as a rebuttal witness. 24 So what I can do is, I mean, we could have an agreement where we try to handle all out-of-town 25

witnesses with wide open cross, and try to get in 1 2 all questions we are aware of at the time. 3 If there is other testimony that comes up, 4 that is a changed circumstance, where we need to 5 recall them, so be it. Does that make sense? So it may be that we have this agreement 6 7 for wide-open cross, everyone takes their shots that they know about it. But I don't excuse any witness 8 9 from the trial and make them all subject to recall. 10 MR. PRYOR: Your Honor, on the conditional close, when the plaintiff does a conditional close 11 because of a witness or two that the defendants are 12 13 to provide but aren't able to because of scheduling, 14 the plaintiff will still go first in the examination 15 of that witness? 16 THE COURT: Yes. 17 And what I could do on a conditional close, if we have scheduling issues where there 18 19 needs to be an out-of-turn witness, I can tell the 20 jury, Hey, we've got a couple witnesses the plaintiff is going to call later on in the case but 21 22 they are done with the witnesses we have available 23 for them now. 24 Now we are going to hear from the defense 25 until we get those plaintiff's witnesses later.

1	I can do that to try to say that I'm sort
2	of the schedule coordinator, even though I'm not,
3	and just make it not look like y'all are up to
4	shenanigans, if that makes sense.
5	Okay. So who is after Schneider?
6	MR. McKEEBY: I'm not sure.
7	THE COURT: Okay.
8	MR. McKEEBY: Unless you want me to pick
9	someone.
10	THE COURT: You can just pick someone.
11	I'm just trying to talk through anyone who
12	we might have issues with, either travel or former.
13	Does that make sense?
14	MR. McKEEBY: Well, there is yet another
15	bucket, and maybe I will get to these folks now,
16	which are a group of four flight attendants who I
17	understand to be currently employed.
18	Among the people who are in these
19	subpoenas, that are not local, and I don't know
20	that, you know I mean, they are rank and file, if
21	you will, employees, not managers. They are not
22	within the same control as someone who is appearing
23	as an executive or supervisor.
24	So I don't know how we want to handle
25	those folks. Well, I take that back, a couple of

them have been deposed in the case, two of them have 1 2 But they have listed them in their witnesses, 3 and have also served me with subpoenas for these 4 folks. 5 I don't have the authority to accept subpoenas on their behalf. I don't know that 6 7 Southwest does either. I don't think they are compliant with Rule 45, the subpoenas. So I guess 8 9 we should talk about those four people. MR. GREENFIELD: And I think we have some 10 11 overlap on those witnesses. 12 THE COURT: Can we name those four people, 13 the flight attendants? 14 MR. McKEEBY: Jessica Parker, John Parrot, 15 both of those folks have been deposed. 16 And the other two, Brett Navarez and Brian 17 Talburt. And I apologize, I misspoke. 18 19 understanding is that Mr. Perrit is a resident of 20 Dallas. 21 MR. GREENFIELD: He's not. He's from 22 Oregon. 23 MR. McKEEBY: I'm corrected. 24 resident of Oregon. 25 THE COURT: Close.

1	MR. McKEEBY: Just missed it.
2	MR. GREENFIELD: And Ms. Parker is a
3	resident of Denver, I believe, further upstate.
4	Further up in Colorado.
5	And Mr. Navarez is somewhere on the west
6	coast. I know he's not here in Dallas.
7	THE COURT: Do we know Talburt? I'm
8	sorry. Did you say Talburt?
9	MR. GREENFIELD: I don't know his current
10	location off the top of my head, but I don't believe
11	he's based in Dallas.
12	MR. McKEEBY: Phoenix is what I'm advised.
13	MR. GREENFIELD: Phoenix is Talburt.
14	THE COURT: Got it.
15	So for these four, let's talk about I
16	mean, you represented the first two in the
17	deposition.
18	But the question is, are you authorized to
19	accept service of the trial subpoena for them?
20	MR. McKEEBY: I did not represent them in
21	the first deposition. They were deposed as Union
22	representatives.
23	MR. GREENFIELD: Yes, your Honor. They
24	were 30(b)(6) witnesses on behalf of the Union.
25	Specifically, Ms. Parker and Mr. Parritt, at the

1	time, they were both members of the Union's
2	executive board and we were able to execute control
3	over them.
4	They are no longer in our control. They
5	are just rank and file employees of Southwest
6	Airlines at this point.
7	THE COURT: Understood.
8	So your representation of them could not
9	continue because they are not executive members of
10	the Union now.
11	Southwest might represent them.
12	MR. GREENFIELD: We have no control over
13	them at this point.
14	THE COURT: I get that.
15	And so if you have control over them, it
16	is control as a line-level Southwest employee?
17	MR. McKEEBY: Correct.
18	THE COURT: Okay.
19	So let me ask questions. I mean, are
20	there problems with the trial subpoenas that you
21	want to flag now? Because in my mind, control has
22	shifted from one defendant to another. But if they
23	are still an employee, I still view them as under
24	control.
25	I know that there are scheduling issues

that can arise with flight attendants and how far 1 2 out you book, which flight. I have no idea. We haven't 3 MR. McKEEBY: been in touch with these folks, as far as I know. 4 5 So I don't know their availability. And, again -so I mean, I would have to check and address that 6 7 issue, I suppose. THE COURT: Understood. 8 9 MR. GREENFIELD: In regard to Mr. Parritt, 10 we don't anticipate any issues with his willingness 11 to show up, at least, you know, communicated 12 scheduling, et cetera, with the plaintiffs. And the 13 same thing goes with former President Stone. 14 But Ms. Parker and Mr. Navarez has at 15 least on some level expressed unwillingness to be here. And I have no control to -- just as far as 16 17 the Union's control is over these individuals. And again, that goes to the 18 MR. McKEEBY: 19 validity of the subpoenas. I don't think they can just serve a lawyer of a company with a subpoena of, 20 in this case, a flight attendant and compel that 21 22 person to be at trial. 23 That is not what Rule 45 says. They have 24 to -- they want them here, they have to subpoena 25 them, which they can't in this case, at least with

respect to most of these people, because they are 1 2 outside of the subpoena power. 3 MR. GREENFIELD: We also received this 4 morning, right outside of the courthouse, subpoenas 5 for Ms. Parker and Mr. Navarez as well. Again, we don't have the ability to really accept these. 6 7 THE COURT: Well, so I see your point, Mr. McKeeby. But at the end of the day, if they are 8 9 Southwest employees, can't Southwest compel them to 10 come to trial? 11 MR. McKEEBY: I -- I -- usually the answer 12 to that question would be, of course. I'm not sure, 13 because of the Union and they are Union members, 14 that it is that simple. I guess I can check and see if that is the case. 15 THE COURT: Dan, I'd like you to check. 16 17 Because I mean, I have gotten someone here from That was under the control. Control 18 19 stretches as far as the corporation does, if that 20 makes sense. And so if a corporation, you know, it is 21 22 easier for at-will employees, not Union members, but 23 at-will employees, they have to do anything the 24 corporation tells them lawfully to do. 25 MR. McKEEBY: Well, yes.

1 But I mean, again, the Union -- you know, 2 existence here is significant. I mean, I could, 3 frankly -- I mean, because it will be unusual for Southwest to reach out to an employee absent some 4 5 Union contact. And say, Hey, by the way, you have to be at trial in Dallas, oh, by the way, in which 6 7 the Union is a party. That is going to be a very complicated 8 9 And the employee very likely, if they got 10 that call from, you know, my contact at Southwest Airlines, is going to tell that person, no, I'm not 11 coming to Dallas. You need to talk to my Union. 12 13 So it is not as simple as in most cases, 14 given the Union presence. 15 MR. GILLIAM: Your Honor, counsel for both Southwest and Local 556, it is as simple enough as 16 17 coordinating between the two to get some of these witnesses here. 18 19 THE COURT: And I'm going to have two 20 suggestions. Suggestion one is, could we have a 21 22 coordinated effort? I know they are no longer Union 23 management and that doesn't necessarily mean --24 well, they are no longer under the control of the 25 Union but that doesn't mean the Union has no role.

So if there could be coordinated reach 1 2 out, one, that would be helpful. 3 Two, if you don't hear back in 48 hours 4 that someone from Southwest will accept service of 5 the subpoena, I'm going to suggest you do the subpoena the old way, right? 6 Now, the question is, if they are beyond 7 the subpoena power of the Court, then we are again 8 9 relying on control of the corporation to get them here, the corporation being Southwest. 10 But if you are here on Rule 45 issues, 11 then I think some of those could be circumvented by 12 13 you serving those witnesses individually, if that 14 makes sense. 15 MR. GILLIAM: Understood, your Honor. And one of the reasons why we did go that 16 17 route for some of the witnesses was that on the initial disclosure, Southwest indicated contact 18 19 certain individual through counsel. Others were not listed on their initial disclosures, but the ones 20 who were, were -- and the same goes for Local 556 21 22 and Southwest. They said to communicate and contact 23 these people. 24 THE COURT: And that is the normal course 25 because they would prefer that, right? No one wants

to be a flight attendant touching down and then a 1 process server shows up and hands them a trial 2 3 subpoena. 4 What I'm trying to say is, I will give a 5 48-hour period for Southwest and the Union to work with that person, right? On whether or not they can 6 7 attend trial, whether or not an attorney for Southwest will accept service of that subpoena for 8 9 them. Beyond that window, now we are getting 10 into the point where you need to clear off those 11 defects. And if that is a defect, you need to work 12 13 on clearing it off and serve it the old fashioned 14 I give you permission to serve anyone 15 individually. Let me think through it. 16 17 Let's say, it is Monday at 5 p.m. is sort of my deadline for when I think you have a green 18 19 light to no longer work through them for service of 20 a subpoena. And you can work separately on service of a subpoena. 21 22 Even if you serve those subpoenas 23 separately, I think Southwest would still have a 24 continuing duty at that point with a duly-served

subpoena to make that person available for trial.

25

1 But specifics and mechanics, we need to 2 talk through that because I'm not trying to 3 inconvenience these people. 4 MR. McKEEBY: What about people that are 5 outside of subpoena range? THE COURT: So, again, if we have the 6 7 corporation -- I mean, you need to flag for me if there is an Union issue, right? Union, in my mind, 8 9 and Southwest should both be telling the person, 10 Hey, you are under the control collectively of Southwest and the Union, and Southwest and Union 11 12 need you at trial because you were subpoenaed. 13 MR. McKEEBY: Okay. 14 THE COURT: Now, if I'm wrong on that, tell me I'm wrong, if you have got some case law on 15 16 that. 17 To me, I hear there are two individuals who might have some level of control. If both of 18 19 them are parties and there is a trial subpoena that is validly served, if not agreed to be accepted, 20 then I think that collective control should be able 21 22 to get them here. 23 Okay. Well, I can just tell MR. McKEEBY: 24 you that I'm not going to be authorized to accept 25 subpoenas for collective bargaining represented

1	flight attendants. So they are going to have to
2	subpoena them in the old fashioned way and then we
3	can cooperate at that point.
4	THE COURT: So I understand that.
5	So no longer on Monday at 5:00 deadline.
6	What I will ask is, if the Union or
7	Southwest, or both, could provide location for a
8	process server of where they will be, right? I
9	don't want any hiding of the ball, I don't think
10	y'all will. But because we are on the eve of trial
11	now, they may be chasing them around the country.
12	Then that will give y'all I mean, if
13	y'all want to tell them, if y'all want to be
14	professional and coordinating, we plan on serving
15	them on this layover and you want to tell them that
16	and give them a heads up and they won't be
17	surprised. I think that would be a professional
18	courtesy, if you can't accept service.
19	MR. McKEEBY: I can try to do that.
20	THE COURT: Understood.
21	MR. GILLIAM: I can as well.
22	MR. McKEEBY: Just provide their
23	addresses? I think one of the communications that I
24	received last night has residential addresses, so I
25	can provide that as well.

1 THE COURT: Understood. 2 I know these are difficult, and with the 3 Union overlay, they are all the more difficult. 4 I appreciate y'all working through it. Ιt 5 is a challenge. MR. GILLIAM: Your Honor, so it is no 6 7 longer a Monday deadline. Is there a particular deadline now? 8 9 THE COURT: So here is the thing in my 10 The Monday deadline I was giving you was the mind. deadline to start serving them with the trial 11 12 subpoena because I understood them to say that they 13 wanted to have a discussion on whether or not to 14 accept service. 15 If I understand the current position is, he knows he can't get there, he's saying I can't 16 17 accept service for under the CBA. In that case, then, I'm no longer sitting you out until Monday at 18 19 5 to serve them directly. You can serve them directly an hour from now, if you want to and can 20 21 find them. 22 What I'm asking them to do, by the end of 23 the day, provide you with location information of 24 where they will be next week, so that you can serve 25 them.

I would say serve them the sooner the 1 2 better because that serving is what now opens the 3 dialogue as to scheduling, right? 4 And so if you serve them next Friday, it 5 is going to have less time to promote a cooperative schedule than it is if you serve them on Monday or 6 7 serve them tomorrow. So what other witnesses or buckets 8 Okay. 9 do we need to talk about? Because we haven't talked 10 about anyone wholly separately on your list. Mr. Greenfield. 11 12 MR. GREENFIELD: There was only four 13 individuals, President Stone -- former President 14 Stone, who has expressed willingness to be here. We 15 will work with the other side on the scheduling on that. The same with former board member, John 16 17 Parritt. It is really the two additional, 18 19 Ms. Parker and Mr. Navarez, who are, as we have discussed, outside of the subpoena range. They do 20 They are not within the Union's 21 not live here. 22 control. And I guess there is potential issues, I 23 guess, of whether Southwest has the ability to get 24 them here. 25 And as Mr. McKeeby has expressed, he

1 doesn't have the ability to accept service on their 2 behalf. We would be happy to work on addresses, et 3 cetera. 4 But I don't want to run afoul of the Court 5 on the Union's role in this. I just don't know how I can help because they are outside of our control 6 in making them be here. 7 THE COURT: Well, I understand that. 8 9 So the thing I'm getting to is, if it is 10 two players at issue with Southwest and the Union, is it possible that neither has control? That would 11 12 be a strange phenomenon to me. I realize that it is 13 diffusion of power, but I don't know it is an 14 absence of power. 15 So what my anticipation is, is once they are validly served with a trial subpoena, to have 16 17 dual communication going on with Southwest and the Union, saying, we share power in this arrangement. 18 19 So we really would like you to be there because you have been validly subpoenaed now for trial. What 20 can we do to help make that happen? 21 22 Southwest has airplanes and jump seats and 23 things of that nature. 24 MR. McKEEBY: I think that -- and again, I 25 have questions and reservations about whether or not

1	there can be a validly-served subpoena given where
2	some of these people are geographically.
3	But at the same time, I'm fine to work
4	with, you know, look to say along the lines you
5	suggested, you have been subpoenaed, you should
6	come, we would like you to come, here is the flight
7	that you can take to get here.
8	THE COURT: Can I ask so it sounds like
9	the toughest cases might be Parker and Navarez on
10	willingness.
11	Who else would be?
12	MR. McKEEBY: Talburt.
13	THE COURT: Halpert.
14	And can you remind me of Halpert's
15	situation?
16	MR. McKEEBY: Talburt is a flight
17	attendant and lives in Phoenix.
18	THE COURT: Sorry. Talburt. I heard
19	Halpert, my bad.
20	MR. McKEEBY: Talburt with a T.
21	THE COURT: Okay. I'm trying to think,
22	the worst case scenario, break glass in case of
23	emergency, do we hear testimony by deposition?
24	I know Talburt was not deposed. Navarez
25	was not deposed. And both of those have willingness

1	problems, right? Or at least Navarez certainly
2	does.
3	So I guess that is the question. And so,
4	in that situation, obviously, I'm fine with you
5	presenting someone by deposition.
6	If we have a situation where someone has
7	not been deposed, then we have an issue. And then I
8	may need to make them sit for deposition, a full one
9	between now and trial, right?
10	Fortunately, we have the advantage of more
11	than a week, which is not what we normally have.
12	MR. McKEEBY: What about appearing by
13	telephone at trial?
14	THE COURT: That is a good question.
15	How about, let's talk through that maybe
16	in a status report. If that is if our options
17	are down to deposition or Zoom kind of testimony,
18	then let's talk through that.
19	I don't want to go there just yet. I
20	don't think we are there just yet.
21	MR. McKEEBY: Okay.
22	THE COURT: I guess my point being, if
23	they can't come to us, y'all can go to them.
24	And I think there is plenty of time to
25	make that happen between now and then. I wouldn't

fully discover everything they need. But I think that is where we are at. So can y'all update me with periodic status reports on how we are doing on these? You know, I will leave it to y'all to understand the triggering events that would warrant a status report. But if y'all are cooperating and talking and folks have been served and you are working on schedules, great. If things are breaking down and it looks like someone just isn't going to be there, there is no power to compel them, those are the kinds of things I need to know. For example, if I'm going to order a depo, I need to make that by court order, right? Because we are way past the fact discovery cutoff. If there are things I need to do in order to make sure that testimony that needs to happen does, then let me know what I need to do. MR. MCKEEBY: Well, I have two more buckets. I'm not sure the Court's buckets are my buckets. THE COURT: Let's do it. MR. MCKEEBY: The one should be pretty	1	put a one-hour limit on it. You are entitled to
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23 buckets. 24 THE COURT: Let's do it.	21	MR. McKEEBY: Well, I have two more
24 THE COURT: Let's do it.	22	buckets. I'm not sure the Court's buckets are my
	23	buckets.
MR. McKEEBY: The one should be pretty	24	THE COURT: Let's do it.
	25	MR. McKEEBY: The one should be pretty

1	easy, which is people who are no longer employed
2	with Southwest that we haven't talked to about their
3	willingness to participant because we don't intend
4	to call them.
5	Those employees would be actually, some
6	of whom were on the first in the first bucket
7	about people who we contemplated a deposition for
8	because they were not listed as in the
9	plaintiff's initial disclosures.
10	So the four that I have are Tammy Shaffer,
11	Naomi Hudson, Melissa Burdine and Edie Barnett.
12	They are not employed with Southwest any longer. I
13	think they are all local, but I don't know that for
14	sure.
15	And so I don't have control over them at
16	all, either formally or otherwise.
17	THE COURT: So that was Shaffer, Hudson,
18	Burdine, Barnett?
19	MR. McKEEBY: Yes.
20	THE COURT: And I had Hudson and Burdine
21	in that first group, where I had said a one-hour
22	Zoom depo is okay.
23	MR. McKEEBY: I apologize for not raising
24	that.
25	THE COURT: I think I tried to cut you off

from raising that, but I didn't realize the 1 2 interplay. That is my fault, not yours. 3 Then the Southwest one I have at Okay. 4 issue previously was Shaffer, in the second bucket I 5 said, they can call them, if they want. going to make them sit for a deposition, but here 6 they may not be able to call them, if they want. 7 But if they are within 100 miles, I think 8 9 here what we need to do is have you subpoena them. 10 Do the trial subpoena's within a hundred miles. 11 They can show up. You may not know what they're 12 going to say. 13 Now, I would say because at least two of 14 these folks with Hudson and Burdine are in that 15 bucket 1, right? Southwest should make them 16 available for a depo. That is if they are under the 17 control of Southwest. So Southwest, you can communicate with any 18 19 I would expect if I were one of of these parties. 20 these folks that I would want you as my lawyer. Ι wouldn't want to fly blind or pay for a lawyer 21 22 myself. So I have no problems with you 23 communicating with these folks and being their 24 lawyer in the depo, if you want to. 25 But in my mind that bucket 1, I'm still of

1	the mindset they should sit for a one-hour Zoom
2	depo, whether you are their lawyer or not. Does
3	that make sense?
4	I'm not saying you have to well
5	MR. McKEEBY: How do they compel their
6	attendance at the deposition?
7	THE COURT: By my court order.
8	And so now what you are telling me is that
9	some of these folks in the bucket 1 that I thought
10	were under your control are not, at least one or two
11	of them are not.
12	And so what I need to do is come up with a
13	court order, probably for all of these in bucket 1.,
14	and that will just cover the subset of bucket 1
15	which is folks that are not under your control.
16	And by court order, I'm requiring them to
17	sit for a one-hour depo, could be by Zoom, between
18	now and the start of trial.
19	Does that make sense?
20	MR. McKEEBY: Yes.
21	THE COURT: And so that will be your
22	triggering event, where if you want to, you can
23	reach out and say, Hey, I know a process server is
24	probably coming to find you, we are happy to be your
25	lawyer for this one-hour depo. And if you appear at

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trial, we are happy to be your lawyer at trial.
 1
 2
              MR. McKEEBY:
                            Okay.
                                    But -- but they are
 3
    still the -- what is contemplated or required that
 4
    they be served with process for the depositions.
 5
              THE COURT: For these people who are not
 6
    under your control, right? And so that would be the
 7
    Burdine and Hudson subset.
              MR. McKEEBY: And Shaffer and Barnett?
 8
 9
    Oh, no, those are not the same. Just Hudson and
10
    Burdine.
11
              THE COURT:
                          Right.
12
              And so for the others, they are currently
13
    Southwest employees, I'm assuming, Rutherford,
14
    Conlan, Kleburne.
15
              MR. McKEEBY:
                            They are, but we are going
    to get to them because of the availability issues.
16
17
    But that is the last bucket.
18
              THE COURT:
                          Right.
19
                     So let me make sure I understand
20
    where we are at on Shaffer.
              Shaffer was in the second bucket, where I
21
22
    said if they want to call them to trial, great.
23
    Shaffer is no longer an employee. I was not going
24
    to make Shaffer sit for a deposition based on
    Southwest's representation that there is no personal
25
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They were just copied on investigation 1 knowledge. 2 emails. So I don't think, based on that 3 representation, I'm going to take the extra step and 4 make them sit for a depo in Shaffer. 5 Based on that, I still think, if you want to serve Shaffer with a trial subpoena, it sounds 6 7 like Shaffer is local, right? Within 100 miles. So if you want Shaffer to show up, fine. But Shaffer's 8 9 status as a former employee means they are certainly 10 not going to accept service. And there is no deposition to talk about. It is just you do a trial 11 subpoena on Shaffer. We know they won't accept it 12 13 because Shaffer is a former. 14 Okay. So Barnett is the last one to talk 15 about. I don't know that Barnett was in any of the other groups we had talked about. So Barnett is now 16 17 in a new bucket, which is a former employee, who is local. 18 19 Which I think we treat Barnett and Shaffer 20 the same, right? Any reason not to? 21 So you need to serve Barnett directly. 22 I'm not going to make Barnett sit for a separate 23 depo, because we don't have an additional disclosure 24 issue running around. 25 And if Southwest wants to reach out to any

1	formers and offer representation, that is fine.
2	That is normal course. They don't have to. Y'all
3	can talk about scheduling, if you want to proceed
4	with Barnett.
5	MR. GILLIAM: One point of clarification
6	of the bucket of people no longer employed by
7	Southwest.
8	We did talk about earlier also Guttierez,
9	who has also been deposed, again, no longer employed
10	with Southwest.
11	I guess we subpoena her. We can subpoena
12	her directly for trial, but we don't have an address
13	for her.
14	MR. McKEEBY: I will provide an address
15	for her.
16	THE COURT: I understand she's local.
17	Hopefully, that is within 100 miles, but also
18	cooperating is the note I had.
19	If you subpoena her, you will probably end
20	up talking to you anyways.
21	MR. McKEEBY: I suspect that is right.
22	THE COURT: Got it.
23	Any other witnesses and availability we
24	should talk about?
25	MR. McKEEBY: Yes.

So that brings us to the last bucket of --1 2 I apologize. 3 THE COURT: It is okay. 4 MR. McKEEBY: My notes are getting a 5 little difficult to read. Four current Southwest employees who were 6 on their initial disclosures, who we, again, think 7 have very, very tangential relevance to anything in 8 9 this case. 10 They are Linda Rutherford, Brendon Conlon, Nancy Kleburne, and Sonia Lacore. 11 12 Again, all of which may have been copied 13 on an email, but we are not going to present them as 14 decision makers or involved in providing 15 recommendations with respect to the termination or really being at any of the grievance proceedings 16 17 leading up to the termination. And so, again, we don't feel like those 18 19 folks are particularly relevant anyway. That is why 20 we didn't list them in our initial disclosures. They all, for various reasons, the level 21 22 of specificity we can get into, not available at 23 least for trial. That is the person in Kuwai, i.e., 24 Ms. Rutherford. Jamaica is Mr. Conlan. 25 THE COURT: Can you give me those dates

1	for Rutherford?
2	MR. McKEEBY: Rutherford is July 1st
3	through July 8th.
4	THE COURT: All right.
5	And then Conlan?
6	MR. McKEEBY: Conlan is Jamaica from
7	July 1st through July 8th.
8	And then Kleburne has various travels
9	plans between July 5th and July 17th, per this
10	email.
11	THE COURT: Are those continuous travel
12	plans?
13	MR. McKEEBY: Ohio. And then to Arkansas
14	to see family.
15	Southwest gives a lot of very good
16	vacation benefits. So, yes, she's going to be in,
17	it looks like, four different states, between
18	July 5th and July 17th.
19	THE COURT: Why not add a fifth? I'm
20	joking. We will get to that at some point.
21	Okay. So July 5th to 17th.
22	MR. McKEEBY: Right.
23	And then Lacore is probably less
24	interesting, but she has is going to be in
25	Atlanta for apparently a very critical work

function, some type of hospitality summit. 1 2 That is the week of July 11th. And the 3 week of July 4th, she's on some type of out-of-town 4 vacation, the details of which I do not have. 5 And, frankly, with respect to these two, it might be the preference for them to sit for an 6 7 hour deposition, as opposed to having to appear at trial, given their plans. So I'm not sure how to 8 deal with it. 9 10 THE COURT: Understood. So let me pitch it to Carter's team now 11 12 and see what the preference is on a path forward on 13 these four. 14 MR. GILLIAM: What are the preferences? 15 THE COURT: Right. For example, Rutherford and Conlan, their 16 travel dates cutoff July 8th. We will still be 17 going after July 8th, but you will be rested by that 18 19 point. 20 Do you prefer to pursue an out-of-order live fire presentation of them at trial, is my first 21 22 question. Because their timing is a little bit 23 different than Kleburne and Lacore's timing, which 24 is difficult because it is the entirety of the 25 trial.

If that is the only option, 1 MR. GILLIAM: 2 then I would say yes. 3 THE COURT: For an out-of-order live 4 witness presentation? 5 MR. GILLIAM: Yes. 6 THE COURT: Yes. So I think that goes back to my suggestion 7 of today, can you tell them, by the end of the day, 8 9 what all witnesses you want and when. Now you know those schedulings, so you may 10 just present an out-of-order date beyond July 8th, 11 12 where you would take the witness conditionally. 13 And then for the other two, if they have 14 got these blackouts -- I mean, my inclination on the 15 other two, if they are blacked out the entire time, then have them sit for a one-hour depo beforehand. 16 17 If they have marginal relevance, you can find out what the relevance is. And then you would 18 19 know before trial whether or not you would even read a two-minute portion of the transcript. 20 That would be my inclination. And if they 21 22 are current employees, then I can order them to sit 23 for a depo that occurs after fact discovery. 24 MR. GILLIAM: We do view them as relevant, 25 I think for the answers that we have already stated.

1 Lacore was copied on President Stone's 2 complaint of Carter, when she made her complaint the 3 first time. 4 Also, Lacore is relevant because President 5 Stone negotiated grievances and employee discipline with -- specifically social media discipline with 6 Lacore, the vice president of in-flight services. 7 So, again, it goes to the scope of 8 9 Ms. Stone's official capacity of grievance handling, 10 handling social media discipline issues. And Kleburne was the manager of 11 Southwest's task team, that's their accommodations 12 13 team. 14 So any sort of religious accommodation 15 would have to be referred to her. And it would be significant, even if she didn't handle an 16 17 accommodation issue. 18 Understood. THE COURT: 19 So I think I have heard enough to say that 20 I will have them sit for a one-hour depo, if they were not available in trial. And then I will leave 21 22 the scheduling and coordinating of that up to y'all. 23 What I think getting we're getting into 24 is, we will have at least some trial presentations 25 by depo transcript, right? That is where we have

the procedure, show us the full transcript, make 1 2 your depo designations, counter-designations, 3 objections, responses. 4 And so now we will be doing some of that, 5 that is between now and trial, right? So I'm going to ask y'all, if you have a deposition in hand for a 6 witness who will not be at trial, that is one of 7 these one-hour depos, within 24 hours of getting the 8 9 trial transcript, can you file deposition 10 designations with me? That gives me the full transcript and the objections. The other side will 11 12 have -- need to come in 24 hours later. 13 For example, you objected to form on the 14 record 10 times during designated testimony. 15 is our 10 objections. We said object to form, 16 really we meant hearsay. 17 And so at 24 and 48 hours after the transcript comes in hand, I would like to see those. 18 19 But here is what I do with the depo 20 designations, right? I guess it takes a little bit different tactic practically if it is a video depo 21 22 or a paper depo. 23 If it is a video depo, then I give you all 24 of the rulings on the objections that are getting 25 pressed so that the videographer can edit out all

1 the content where I sustained an objection. 2 Where I overruled an objection, they can 3 edit out the objection. And so the goal is for the 4 jury not to hear the word "objection" during the 5 depo. If it is paper, it is a little bit 6 7 different. There is no videographer involved and y'all are going to role play, right? You actually 8 9 put another person, not named Lacore, on the stand 10 to read Lacore's testimony and then the lawyer will 11 question. Then you can just scratch through any 12 13 objection and whatever I cut out in my sustained 14 objection. Does that make sense? That is the end 15 game. So it is either a role play on a paper 16 17 transcript or playing a video. But either way, we have edited out the objections that someone is 18 19 pressing, whether I sustained or overruled those. 20 I plan on turning those back to y'all as soon as I can. But they are going to exist, and 21 22 they are going to be annoying for y'all to have to 23 go edit with the video or carve up with the paper 24 transcript.

Before the first witness we hear from by

25

depo, then I will need to give the disclaimer about, 1 2 we are about to hear from the next witness by depo, give it the same weight as if the person were here. 3 The juries don't like it as much. So it is what it 4 5 is. Maybe you can bring in James Earl Jones or 6 7 somebody to read the transcript and give it life and breadth and meaning. 8 9 Okay. So I think we have covered depo 10 designations. 11 Any questions? 12 I need on my end a written order that sets 13 these folks in bucket 1, and the folks in the last 14 bucket, Kleburne and Lacore, those folks are ordered 15 to sit for a one-hour depo. We know we will hear from you today, Mr. 16 17 Gilliam, about who you hope to take when. And there can be a coordination that tries to go on with the 18 19 They are going to tell you location other folks. information for the folks that you need to serve 20 with Rule 45 trial subpoenas. And then, hopefully, 21 22 there will be a conversation cooperatively after 23 that. 24 If we have issues on control and getting 25 someone here, y'all are going to let me know with a

1	status report, so if I need to order their depo to
2	take place, like we are doing with Kleburne and
3	Lacore before trial, if we can't get them here, that
4	can still happen in a timely fashion before trial.
5	Any other questions?
6	MR. McKEEBY: Yes, one point on the
7	wording of the order.
8	I think this applies to Lacore, but not
9	Kleburne. I think it should read that to the extent
10	that they are not available to appear at trial, they
11	are ordered to appear for a one-hour deposition.
12	THE COURT: Okay.
13	MR. McKEEBY: I think that is not going to
14	matter. I don't think I think we are going to
15	produce them both for deposition, but I just would
16	like to us to have the option, just in case.
17	I assume that is agreeable.
18	THE COURT: So is this just for Lacore or
19	Kleburne as well?
20	MR. McKEEBY: It's just for Lacore, from
21	what I can gather from the schedules.
22	I mean, it looks like Lacore might have
23	pockets of availability, but I can't quite tell
24	from
25	THE COURT: Maybe a drive-by. Moving from

1	one state to another, which is fine. We will make
2	it happen, right?
3	Okay. Other things on witnesses and
4	availability?
5	MR. GREENFIELD: Your Honor, you just
6	mentioned a status report on some of these witness
7	issues.
8	Did you have a specific date or time that
9	you had set out that I didn't get down?
10	THE COURT: No. Because I think the
11	status report might be so bland, you don't need to
12	file it.
13	If everything is going as planned and all
14	of these folks are going to show up one time or
15	another, that doesn't need to be filed, right?
16	I will assume everything is good until it
17	is not.
18	When it is not good, I would like to know
19	because those people who you thought may show up to
20	trial but now it looks we have no way to compel them
21	to attend, those are the folks who, worst case
22	scenario, I would need to order to sit for a
23	deposition before trial, to do the process that we
24	are doing with Kleburne and Lacore in that bucket 1.
25	I need to know that as soon as possible,

just because then y'all will have time to schedule 1 2 the depo as soon as possible. 3 So I'm not going to put an arbitrary date 4 on y'all for a status report. I just think we are 5 all incentivized to move as quickly as we can. tell me when the wheels come off and I need to order 6 7 a depo before anyone I'm not already ordering a depo 8 for. 9 Is that clear enough? I know we are in a 10 muddy situation and I'm trying to make the most of 11 it. 12 MR. McKEEBY: Are you preparing an order 13 with all of this? 14 I'm preparing an order for the THE COURT: 15 folks I know should have to sit for a depo, the 16 one-hour depo, could be by Zoom. 17 And I can say, by my count, those individuals would be named Burdine, Conlan, 18 19 Kleburne, Hudson and Lacore. 20 And then Lacore is going to be worded a little bit differently, which is to the extent 21 Lacore will not be a live witness at trial, then sit 22 23 for a one-hour depo. 24 MR. McKEEBY: And can you remind me where 25 we ended up on Conlan and Rutherford? Who were out

1	of town?
2	THE COURT: I think that the preference
3	from Carter's team was because July 8th is after
4	they rest, but before the case is over, that they
5	would take those witnesses out of turn and would
6	conditionally rest, whatever date that is, subject
7	to taking Rutherford and Conlan.
8	Am I misstating that?
9	And I can't remember if we talked about
10	subpoenaing them directly. I don't know if we had a
11	conversation on that, or if you will accept a
12	subpoena for them because they are current
13	employees.
14	I don't know their status with regard to,
15	like, CBA issues and Union issues.
16	MR. GILLIAM: I believe they are both
17	current employees.
18	MR. McKEEBY: That is my understanding.
19	THE COURT: Okay. If that changes, if you
20	can't work through that, let me know. And if I need
21	to make an order, or, you know, honestly, if they
22	can't accept a subpoena, then you go find them and
23	subpoena them. And you know I will ask you to
24	provide information, location, if they are
25	habitually on the move, like flight attendants.

```
1
                            These aren't flight
              MR. McKEEBY:
 2
    attendants.
 3
              THE COURT: Okay.
                                 Thank you.
 4
                     Anything else on witness issues?
              Okay.
 5
              Can I say just a note right quick,
    assuming we have some witnesses to take by
 6
 7
    deposition, there is an awkwardness that lawyers
    usually flag for me only after we have played a
 8
 9
    video of a depo, or after we have read the
10
    transcript, and you will see in the video, they will
    say, We have handed you what is marked as Exhibit 2.
11
              That is not Trial Exhibit 2, right?
12
13
    may be a trial exhibit, but it wasn't Exhibit 2.
14
              So there are two ways to handle that.
15
    Method 1 is that you can use a cross-reference chart
16
    that you make for me.
17
              So for the Conlan depo, Conlan Depo
    Exhibit 1 equals Trial Exhibit 23.
18
19
              If you make that cross-reference chart, I
20
    can read it to the jury, before we do that depo.
                                                       I
    will say the next witness is by depo and give it the
21
22
    same weight as if they are live. By the way, the
23
    numbers don't match up. I will give you the
24
    cross-reference list. And I can provide that to
25
    them back in the jury room as well. That is the
```

1	only way you can handle a video depo.
2	There is a second way you can handle a
3	paper depo, which is, if y'all are in agreement and
4	y'all are just reading the depo, you mark out
5	Exhibit 2 and put in Exhibit 23. And then it is
6	read live fire to match up to the trial exhibit
7	numbers.
8	So, you know, choose your own adventure.
9	But if you are reading a paper depo, you have got
10	two choices. If it is a video depo, you can't edit
11	out someone voices over 23. That is awkward. We
12	don't do that. You can't edit a video like that.
13	You can mark up paper like that.
14	Any questions on that?
15	MR. McKEEBY: No questions on that.
16	On the order, I may be wildly optimistic
17	on that, but I'm somewhat hopeful that Carter's
18	counsel sees the light and decides there is better
19	uses of their time than deposing these witnesses.
20	Perhaps the order could be written in a way that
21	they are not compelled to appear unless
22	THE COURT: If Carter chooses to depose
23	them, I can put that language in. It is Carter's
24	choice. I can put in that caveat.
25	All right. Any other issues on witnesses?

1 I will do my order. And y'all All right. 2 do what I have asked you to. Keep me posted on if the wheels come off and I need to order more depos 3 4 than the ones I am going to do in the order today. 5 So the only other thing I have is just a few odds and ends on trial procedure. 6 I said this earlier, made a reference to 7 it or an allusion to it, we are supposed to speak in 8 9 code when we are doing objections in front of the 10 jury. 11 The reason why is, they are the triers of 12 fact and objections are legal, gatekeeping issues, 13 right? So we don't want to say, your Honor, that is 14 hearsay, it is an out-of-court statement because it 15 came from a declaration, blah, blah, blah. Don't do that. It is taking the factual 16 17 triers over here and making them hear all of the legal mishmash that is only confusing. 18 19 So speak in code. Ideally, give me a number, right? Objection, 402. Right? It is not 20 21 relevant. 22 In trial, you have got so many things 23 going on that you may not be able to come up with a 24 number handily, give me a word: Objection, 25 relevance; objection, hearsay.

1 If you get out more than one or two words, 2 then it is a speaking objection. That is a side 3 show. So ask for a sidebar for your side show, 4 right? 5 If you can't actually come up with a number or a word or two, come over at sidebar and 6 explain it. 7 There are a lot of times where you can 8 9 speak in code to me, I know exactly what you are 10 talking about, right? It is hearsay. And I don't 11 ask for a response in open court. I think of a 12 response that might say, you know, that is present 13 tense, mental impression, I'm going to overrule 14 I'm not going to say that. I'm just going to 15 say, overruled. If you want a sidebar to hash through it, 16 17 whether you're raising the objection or have a really strong argument against the objection, just 18 It is fine. Just note that 19 call for a sidebar. 20 that time counts against you. I try to handle my sidebars as quickly as 21 22 possible. I don't keep people over there with 23 academic arguments, but we get right to it. So it will take all of our effort to be as 24 25 efficient as possible on the sidebars. Most of my

sidebars last 20 or 30 seconds. And it takes longer 1 to walk over to them than it does to actually get 2 3 out what you want and to get a ruling on it. 4 When you are at the sidebar, though, don't 5 speak in code or numbers, just talk to me in English. But you can be as fast as we can 6 7 transcribe it. And so at the end of this, I'm going to 8 9 see if y'all can come over and you can see what the 10 microphone setup is. I'm going to ask for one lawyer per side. We can't fit all of us over there. 11 12 But it will be three lawyers. I will be there. 13 And then the static will come on. 14 should turn that static on and so y'all can hear. 15 We will talk at a quiet level, but not a whisper, because we have got to hear each other and the 16 17 microphone has to pick us all up for the record 18 purposes. I will remind you, like, I know I put you 19 20 on time limits, please don't speed. If you speed and you start clocking 250 words a minute or more, 21 22 we can't transcribe it. It is just impossible to 23 get a clean transcript. And so then we have to go 24 back to the audio and triple check every word, and 25 that gets cumbersome.

1 So keep in mind if the reporter can't keep 2 up with you, the jury can't either. It is them that 3 you are trying to clearly communicate to. 4 On transcripts, if your clients want any 5 kind of daily copy or realtime, please talk to our court reporter, Kelli Ann, about that before trial. 6 7 Any request like that have to be lined up in advance because she can't be in here transcribing and 8 9 someone going back through the transcript, checking 10 to make sure it is accurate. 11 And so if you are wanting realtime or a 12 daily copy, anything other than a copy for an appeal 13 at the end of the case, those are resources that she 14 has to book in advance, so you can't surprise her on 15 the first day of trial and expect to get daily copy or realtime. 16 17 Okay. And then after this, hopefully, we will get a read from Kevin on if we can see either 18 19 the big jury assembly room downstairs or the Red River room they pitched as an alternate, in case it 20 is not available on July 5th at 1:00. 21 22 I'm trying to think of any other issues. 23 Invoking the rule. 24 I assume everyone wants to invoke the 25 rule.

1	Does anyone want do it just now on the
2	record so we can get it out of the way?
3	MR. McKEEBY: We invoke the rule.
4	THE COURT: Okay. Mr. McKeeby, you have
5	invoked the rule.
6	I don't know what your witnesses look
7	like, so help me patrol that, right?
8	If someone walks in, just call for a
9	sidebar, you will tell me, and I will ask the CSO to
10	get them back out in the hall.
11	On invoking the rule, have y'all picked
12	who your corporate reps are
13	MR. McKEEBY: Yes.
14	THE COURT: who are immune from the
15	rule?
16	MR. McKEEBY: Yes.
17	THE COURT: You each get one, right? You
18	are a party, so you each get one. I don't even have
19	to know who it is, but I just know they are immune
20	from the rule.
21	Carter is immune from the rule.
22	Y'all don't have experts. That keeps it
23	simpler. Sometimes people carve out an exception
24	from the rule so that experts can sit in and watch
25	and it makes it easier to watch.

1 We don't need to cover that here. 2 MR. GILLIAM: We also want to invoke the 3 rule. 4 Well, yes. THE COURT: Yes. It is 5 invoked as to one is invoked as to all. I will assume that the Union does, too. 6 That is why we call it the rule, right? It is good 7 to not have witnesses hearing other witness' 8 9 testimony. 10 So I mentioned this earlier for Okay. objections during opening and closing, if there are 11 12 things you think that the other side is doing 13 against the rules, please write them on a Post-it 14 note, right? And then let's come up and have a 15 sidebar at the end of the person's opening. 16 If you stop someone's opening -- I trust 17 that y'all wouldn't. But there are lawyers in here that are just so antagonistic that they want to stop 18 someone's flow and object to every sentence during 19 20 opening. 21 And at the end of pretty much every 22 opening, I say, this is lawyer argument, it is what 23 you just heard. What you will need to do is listen 24 to the evidence, which you haven't heard any of yet, 25 and apply the law, which you haven't heard from me,

1	because it is not the end of the case.
2	But if there are issues that you want to
3	bring up, please flag those.
4	If I see you walking over a limine issue,
5	I may stop you in the middle of your opening. So
6	please be mindful of our limine issues and do not
7	talk about the things we said to not talk about.
8	And then save any arguments you have on
9	the side for the end. If I need to do a curative
10	instruction, I will. If I need to declare a
11	mistrial, I will do it. That is fine by me.
12	Okay. So any questions about anything we
13	have covered?
14	I think we have exhausted everything on my
15	list. So tell me what we missed.
16	MR. GILLIAM: Your Honor, I guess we do
17	have a few bifurcation issues. One, we are seeking
18	a reinstatement for Ms. Carter. And also,
19	attorney's fees, I assume will be bifurcated as
20	well.
21	THE COURT: All right. Let's talk about
22	reinstatement first.
23	Well, I will just carve out attorney's
24	fees and make that simple.
25	Attorney's fees, I always handle with the

1	standard federal civil model of 14 days after a
2	final judgment, then I require the movant, who might
3	get attorney's fees, to file a motion with the
4	supporting affidavit.
5	So no need for lawyers to get on the stand
6	and talk about the reasonableness of the fee.
7	Fortunately, in federal court, we can carve that out
8	on the back end and not tie up the jury with that.
9	And then I just get cross breaking from the other
10	side on, they are not entitled to fees, or they are
11	but their fee bill, these things appear to be
12	non-recoverable. So we will handle that in
13	post-trial briefing.
14	Talk to me about reinstatement.
15	Reinstatement, are you talking about,
16	like, an equitable remedy? Or does the jury
17	MR. GILLIAM: Reinstatement of Ms.
18	Carter's employment. I guess the same would apply
19	to the scenario where front pay could also be
20	involved as well.
21	So I think that would fall within the same
22	bucket of remedies.
23	There are scenarios maybe where Ms. Carter
24	couldn't get reinstatement but in lieu of
25	reinstatement, could get front pay. So that would

1	be part of the same conversation.
2	THE COURT: All right. What is your
3	proposal for that?
4	Are you proposing we stick around and see
5	what a jury verdict is and then have additional time
6	afterwards to try, depending on the jury verdict,
7	for reinstatement issues?
8	MR. GILLIAM: Right. Separate
9	proceedings, your Honor.
10	THE COURT: Understood.
11	So, yeah, let me ask thoughts on the
12	Southwest front. Part of this is a premature
13	conversation until we see what the jury says.
14	MR. McKEEBY: I mean, I have seen this
15	done but not that way. But it's similar to
16	attorney's fees, in that it's just kind of done by
17	post-trial motion. And the judge makes a
18	determination of whether front pay is appropriate
19	and whether reinstatement is appropriate.
20	And the parties just brief it, as opposed
21	to I don't know what additional evidence could be
22	offered on those issues. They are equitable
23	remedies that are determined by the Court.
24	And so typically what I have seen is just,
25	in employment cases, it is just a matter of

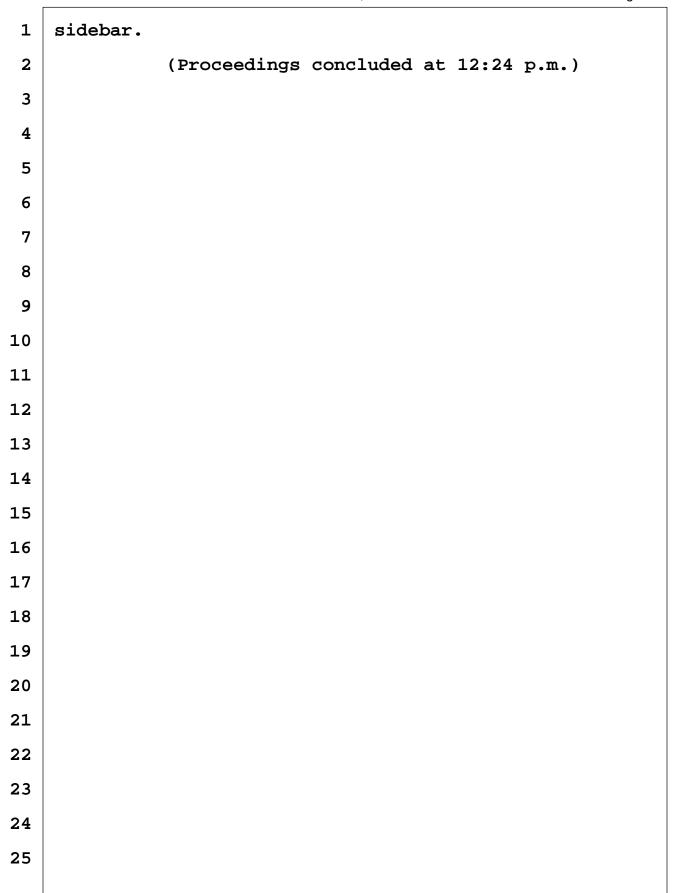
```
post-trial briefing, just like attorney's fees,
 1
 2
    quite frankly.
 3
              THE COURT:
                          Sure.
 4
              Have you seen affidavits being used?
 5
    example, affidavit from HR saying, blah, blah, blah.
                            Yes.
                                  I think so.
 6
              MR. McKEEBY:
 7
              THE COURT:
                          I'm just trying to make sure,
    like if I -- I prefer to handle it that way for the
 8
 9
    same reason as attorney's fees, right? You can have
    an affidavit with attorney's fees in lieu of a live
10
11
    witness.
              And the attorney is the own expert that
12
    says, I have done this 20 years, my fee was
13
    reasonable and necessary.
14
              What I will probably do is say, we should
15
    all think about this as trial progresses and
    think about if there is anything -- I can see plenty
16
17
    of evidence needing to come in, in affidavit form.
    I don't know that I have to take that affidavit form
18
    and make it live fire for them unless there is
19
20
    something that you tell me about that.
              But if there is any need for that, then we
21
22
    could talk through it.
23
                            Your Honor, if there is some
              MR. GILLIAM:
24
    sort of claim that reinstatement is not feasible, I
25
    think that is possible testimony.
```

1	THE COURT: Well and so your point on
2	that would be, if their HR person says reinstatement
3	is not feasible, you would want to take a shot at
4	that HR person rather than just saying, oh, well
5	based on the affidavit, we don't like it.
6	MR. GILLIAM: That's right.
7	THE COURT: I get that.
8	Let's all think about it as trial
9	progresses. I don't think I can rule on that right
10	now on what form it is.
11	MR. McKEEBY: Respectfully, the
12	feasibility of reinstatement is not an HR person
13	testifying, you know, we don't have a spot for her.
14	It is the Court making an assessment,
15	based on the weight of the evidence and the facts as
16	to whether or not the equity permits or should
17	should require reinstatement. So it is not an
18	evidentiary issue.
19	Again, we can brief it, if necessary.
20	THE COURT: Sure.
21	MR. GILLIAM: But I don't know that a HR
22	person is going to be able to say it in this
23	context.
24	THE COURT: And I appreciate you flagging
25	it. It is something we need to think of as the

I will keep my thinking evolving 1 trial progresses. 2 on it, make sure I investigate it. 3 So when the time comes to talk about 4 reinstatement, then I decide wisely at that point in 5 time whether it is by affidavit or live testimony. Any other issues? 6 7 This is going to be a fun case. I'm looking forward to it. I came here to try cases, 8 9 not settle them. So thank you for giving us an 10 interesting case to try. So we will just do the path forward we 11 12 talked about. I will get the order out today on the 13 one-hour depos. And then y'all work on exchanging 14 information on location. 15 And then let me know if there are additional folks who I need to order to sit down for 16 17 a depo because it doesn't look like they can come to trial. And then y'all tell me deposition page and 18 19 line designations for folks who are just going to appear by depo. And then I will work through those 20 objections. 21 MR. McKEEBY: I did have one other 22 23 question. 24 At trial, will you want both defendants 25 here or will one of the defendants be at that table?

1 That is a great question. THE COURT: 2 I'm going to let y'all pick. If y'all can 3 fit around that table, great. But you are going to 4 have corporate reps there. So six chairs around the 5 table, you are probably going to want to split up It's just my guess. 6 into two. 7 After I go off the record, then let's come over here and make sure we can test out a sidebar. 8 9 One lawyer for each side come up and we will just 10 practice how loud we talk to where we hear each other people but the people in the box can't hear. 11 I will try to find Mr. Frye and see if 12 13 he's got a beat on looking at the jury assembly room 14 and/or the Red River room. 15 Anything else? 16 All right. Thank you. 17 Y'all are great lawyers and this is going to be a fun case. We get lots of cases where the 18 19 lawyers just don't know how to be officers of the 20 And y'all know how to represent your clients court. zealously and be officers of the court. 21 22 Y'all are a tribute to the profession. 23 So this is going to be great to try. 24 So with that, I will go off the record. 25 And let's come over here and we will live-fire a

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1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3	I, Kelli Ann Willis, RPR, CRR, CSR
4	certify that the foregoing is a transcript from the
5	record of the proceedings in the foregoing entitled
6	matter.
7	I further certify that the transcript
8	fees format comply with those prescribed by the
9	Court and the Judicial Conference of the United
10	States.
11	This 19th day of June 2022
12	Kelen June
13	s/Kelli Ann Willis Official Court Reporters
14	The Northern District of Texas Dallas Division
15	
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